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Sense & Hackability

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metroNEWS

'Famous people's dogs get hot, too'

WEST VANCOUVER

Flashdance star confronted for leaving her pet alone in car

Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

Jennifer Beals in a screengrab of a video shot by Global News reporter Catherine Urquhart. CATHERINE URQUHART/GLOBAL NEWS

The BC SPCA is again warning the public about the dangers of leaving pets in hot cars after actress Jennifer Beals allegedly left a dog inside a vehicle in West Vancouver on Wednesday.

The incident, which was captured on video by Global News reporter Catherine Urquhart, began shortly after 11:30 a.m. when Urquhart was walking down the 1800 block of Marine Drive and spotted a dog that was left alone inside a black SUV.

Although the window was partly rolled down, the dog, which appeared to be a German shepherd-type breed, was panting a lot, she said.

"I'm no dog expert, but it made me kind of go, 'Oh, it doesn't look good,'" Urquhart told Metro. "Just based on knowing that you shouldn't leave a dog in a hot car."

Shortly after, another concerned citizen came across the scene. The man, believing the animal was in distress, called the authorities, she said.

About five minutes later, Urquhart said a woman who appeared to be the owner returned to the vehicle. Before she could get inside, however, the man, who was still on the phone with police, approached her.

"He confronted her," she said. "Not in a very aggressive way. He basically just said, 'Hey, you shouldn't be doing that.'"

After the woman got into the vehicle, Urquhart said she recognized her as American actress Jennifer Beals, best known for her roles in the movie Flashdance and the TV series The L Word.

Urquhart said she was puzzled by the actress's response.

"She had an excuse," she said. "Something along the lines of, 'In Dunbar, it's OK.' It doesn't really make any sense.

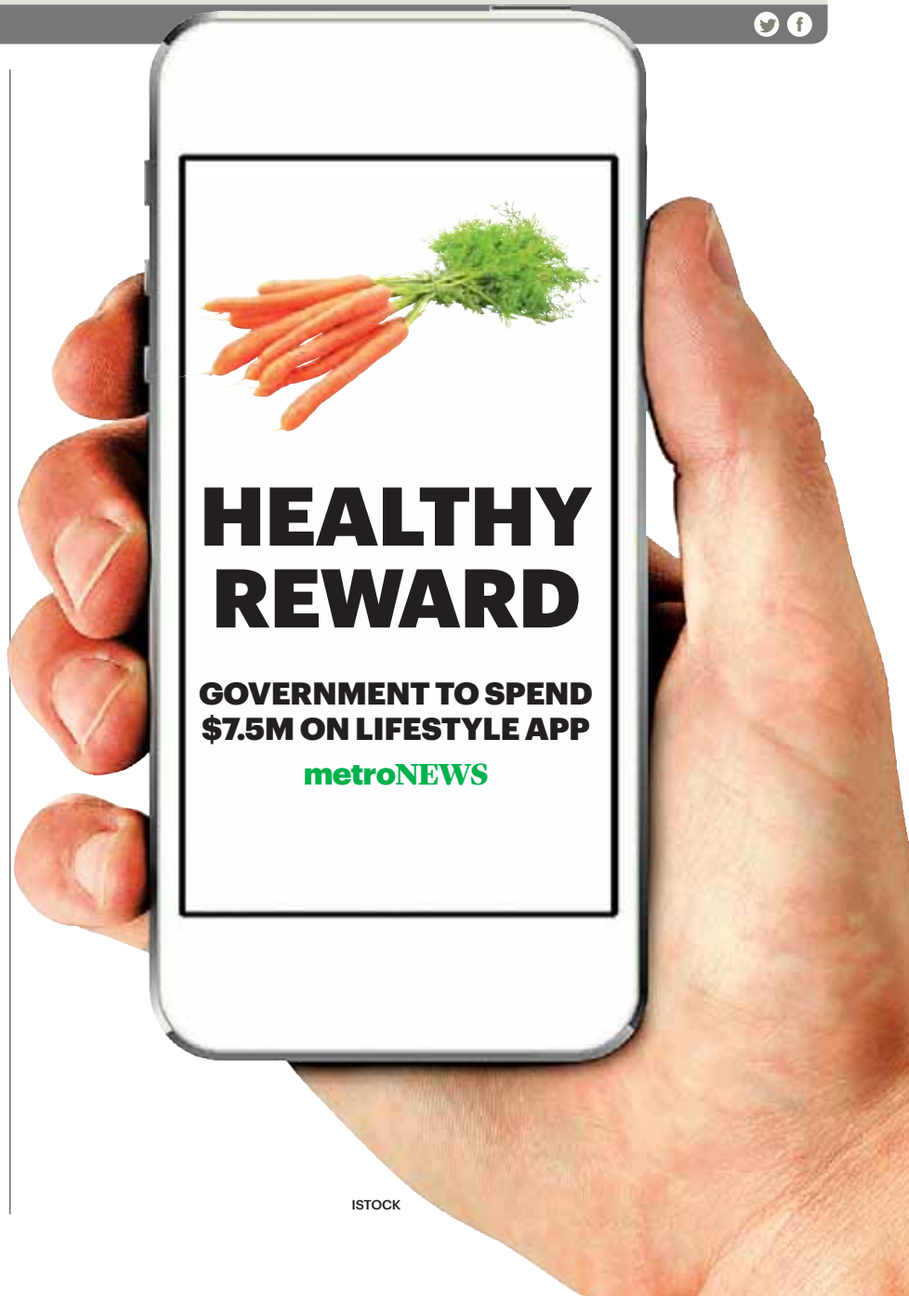
"I guess she figured, because the window was open a little bit, that it was OK."

A request for comment from Beals' agent was not immediately returned Wednesday.

Marcie Moriarty, chief prevention and enforcement officer for the BC SPCA, said the incident serves as a reminder that dogs don't belong in cars during the hot summer months.

"Famous people's dogs get hot, too," she said. "This is again just that messaging that no matter who you are, where you are, people are being extra vigilant in watching out for dogs in hot cars."

Anyone who sees a child or a pet left unattended in a hot car is asked to either call the BC SPCA's animal cruelty hotline 1-855-622-7722, local police or animal control.



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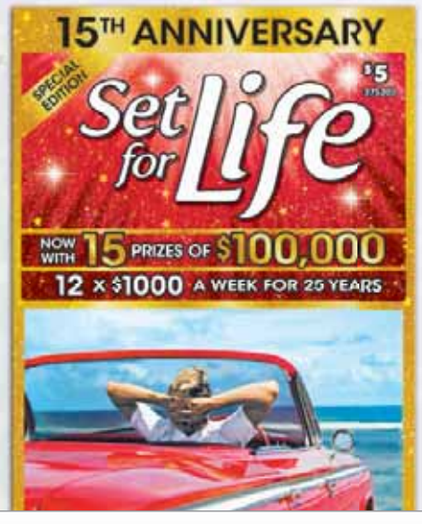

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IN BRIEF

Vancouver police warn of firefighter imposter

Police are warning the public to be on alert after a man falsely claiming to be a firefighter entered an east Vancouver home by telling residents he was conducting an inspection on July 27.

While the man, wearing a blue shirt with a fire department logo, didn't commit an offence in the home, police say he may have been looking for an opportunity to steal something or was casing the home.

Police were contacted because the owner remained suspicious of the encounter.

Spokesman Const. Brian Montague said the fire department doesn't do home inspections unless requested. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

Fentanyl detected in North Vancouver deaths

Fentanyl has been detected in the death of a married couple in North Vancouver last week, the B.C. Coroners Service confirms.

Hardy Robert Leighton, 31, and his wife Amelia, 30, were found dead in their home of suspected overdoses. The coroners service rushed toxicology testing in case of a public-health risk and confirmed that the couple had ingested toxic levels of fentanyl, in combination with other drugs.

The prevalence of fentanyl, laced with other drugs to make them strong or falsely sold as other drugs, has been a growing concern. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

New towers hurt low-income folks: Study

ACCESSIBILITY

Burnaby's condos push out cheaper housing

Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

Knocking down old wood-frame apartment buildings around Metrotown in favour of glass condo towers can hurt low-income residents and recent immigrants — the very people who rely most on transit, according to research from the University of British Columbia.

Burnaby's zoning policy to encourage high rises in the Maywood area near the mall and SkyTrain station is putting rentals built in the 1970s at risk, according to UBC PhD geography student Craig E. Jones' report on transit-oriented development and gentrification along the SkyTrain corridor.

The city issued demolition permits for more than 300 units concentrated in the area in the past two years alone compared to 50 in the entire city over the previous nine years, according to Jones.

The buildings are aging and not necessarily in good quality, but they're larger, cheaper than new condos and close to transit for people who can't afford cars, Jones said.

Old rental housing and new condo towers in Burnaby. COURTESY CRAIG E. JONES

"They can get around the region because they're within walking distance of a SkyTrain station," said Jones, who interviewed 26 immigrants living in the aging but affordable Burnaby rentals.

"They're really concerned about the loss of housing and also displacement, that they won't be able to find a place to rent in the neighbourhood."

Jones recognizes that planners are expecting population growth in the region and doesn't disagree with the sustainability-focused policy to house people near transit so they don't rely on cars. But he is calling on planners to think of the consequences of losing older housing stock as development continues along the Evergreen Line.

"We need to think carefully about the displacement of low income people by areas that are well served by rapid transit," he said.

DISPUTE

Rich baby will have to share estate

It appears a baby girl possibly fathered by a murdered West Vancouver millionaire will have to share the fortune with siblings.

The girl's mother, Xuan Yang, has claimed that her daughter is sole heir to the $50-million estate of Gang Yuan.

But a lawyer for Gang's family has come forward saying the man actually fathered several children, meaning the wealth will have to be divided among the children.

Chris Johnson, the lawyer for Gang's mother and brother, said he's puzzled by the approach taken by Xuan, the man's former lover. "(My clients) don't stand to gain or lose from letting some children be his children and others not," said Johnson.

Gang's body was found chopped into more than 100 pieces in May. A male relative is charged with second-degree murder. The gruesome death returned to the limelight after a B.C. Supreme Court ordered paternity testing for Xuan's infant.

The daughter of the Chinese woman would by law inherit the fortune if proven his only offspring, as Xuan claims.

But Johnson says "several" children — some in Vancouver and others in China — have already been DNA-tested. The paternity investigation proved Gang was their dad too, he said.

The court ordered testing on Xuan's baby be conducted next month. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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IN BRIEF

Trio convicted after lying about 2013 crash

Three people have been convicted of insurance fraud after investigators discovered two of them lied about being passengers in a 2013 collision.

ICBC says Lower Mainland resident Thai Yuen Vo was involved in a crash while exiting the parking lot of a Surrey gas station in June 2013.

Her sister, Michelle Vo, and friend, Ryan Rillo, also claimed to be injured in the crash and sought compensation.

However, ICBC investigators learned — through witness interviews, video footage from the Port Mann Bridge and cellphone records — that neither Michelle nor Rillo were actually in the car at the time.

Phone records indicate Vo called her sister minutes after the crash, as Michelle was working in Coquitlam.

All three were charged with insurance fraud by "a passenger jump-in scheme" and were convicted recently in criminal court.

Not only were the ICBC claims for bodily injuries rejected, Vo was fined $1,000 and sentenced to one day in prison, Michelle was fined $2,000 and sentenced to a day in jail, and Rillo was fined $2,000.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

MORE LOCAL NEWS ONLINE

The Capilano Reservoir in North Vancouver. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

Residents mindful of water conservation

DROUGHT

Poll: British Columbians heeding restrictions

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

British Columbians are well aware of the need to conserve water during this summer's drought, a new poll reveals.

According to an online study conducted by polling company Insights West, 88 per cent of British Columbians with a lawn have stopped watering it over the past two months, and 86 per cent of car owners have not washed their vehicle.

Survey respondents seem to be taking additional steps to conserve water, with 63 per cent claiming to be taking shorter showers, 53 per cent using their dishwasher less and 48 per cent doing laundry less frequently.

The survey says 95 per cent of residents are supportive of water-use restrictions currently in effect throughout the province.

The Metro Vancouver region has been under Stage 3 water restrictions since July 20, which prohibit lawn sprinkling, private pressure washing, operating ornamental fountains, filling swimming pools, and washing driveways, sidewalks, parkades, vehicles, golf course fairways and cemetery lawns.

Additionally, the province has declared a Level 4 drought rating for the Lower Fraser, South Coast, Vancouver Island, South Thompson, Similkameen, Kettle and Stagit regions due to ongoing low stream flows.

Despite the restrictions, many survey respondents say they've seen violations first-hand.

Forty-one per cent have seen neighbours water their lawn while 20 per cent have seen cars being washed.

CRIME

Police release photos of suspect's tattoos after little girl robbed of money

A suspect in a home invasion is shown in this image. VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vancouver police are expanding their search across Canada for two suspects wanted for a home invasion where a gun was used to rob a seven-year-old girl of a change jar.

One suspect was initially described as having full-sleeve tattoos up his arms, but police announced Wednesday they were mistaken and the man bore tattoos of a tribal image and scorpion on his right forearm.

Vancouver police Const. Brian Montague said in a news release that officers are distributing photos of the tattoos.

"Police are hoping the release of these additional photos will result in that one tip needed to positively identify the two men," he said.

"Someone knows who they are and we hope that the appalling circumstances of the crime will convince someone to come forward."

The crime occurred June 17, when two men dressed in reflective vests forced their way into an East Vancouver home, said police.

One of the suspects pointed the gun at the girl before she went to her parents' bedroom to get the change jar to hand over to the men. Police said the suspects also took a unique Rolex watch made of steel and rose gold.

Police said previously they were seeking a white man aged 25 to 45 years old, with a slim build and a shaved head.

The second suspect is described as a dark-skinned man aged 20 to 30, with a medium build and a thin beard.

Investigators have received several tips and are asking anybody with further information to call Crime Stoppers or the major-crimes section of the Vancouver Police Department. THE CANADIAN PRESS

COQUITLAM

Second World War bomb uncovered

Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

Mounties were called to a home in Coquitlam on Monday when a contractor hired by a family to carry out work in their late grandfather's residence made a potentially explosive discovery.

He found what he believed to be a Second World War-era bomb loosely sitting in a closet inside the home, located in the 100 block of Logan Street, said Cpl. Jamie Chung, spokesman for Coquitlam RCMP.

"When he opened up the closet, he found this sitting inside," he told Metro. "He immediately left the house, which is the right thing to do, and then he called us through 911."

Police were called to the home around 10:15 a.m., said Chung. When officers arrived, they learned the grandfather was a former member of the Royal Canadian Air Force.

An investigator who has a background in explosive devices determined that it was likely a training bomb used by the military, said Chung.

Since even training bombs carry a small but still volatile charge that could pose danger to anyone in the home, however, police immediately contacted the Royal Canadian Navy, which dispatched the Esquimalt-based fleet diving unit's explosive ordnance disposal team to the scene.

By 5 p.m., technicians seized the object and determined it was safe enough to transport back to the base, Chung said.

It's unclear how long the bomb was in the closet or how the grandfather came to own it.

In his 17 years of policing, Chung said he has never received such an unusual call.

"This is definitely a very rare type of call," he said.

He said the incident serves as a reminder to anyone who finds a weapon or other potentially dangerous device to not touch or disturb it. Chung urged the public to call 911 immediately and to never bring weapons to the RCMP detachment.

The bomb found in a home closet. COURTESY RCMP

B.C., feds tout lifestyle app

TECHNOLOGY

Program rewards users for healthier choices

Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

The B.C. and federal governments are spending millions of dollars to buy reward points for Canadians who engage with a new app that encourages healthy lifestyles.

Called "Carrot Rewards," the $7.5-million smartphone app was created in partnership with company Social Change Rewards with $5 million from Ottawa and $2.5 million from the province as an innovative way to send Canadians mass messages about public health and nudge people to make better choices.

People who sign up for the free app will get reward points of their choice — be it for flights, groceries or movie theatres — in exchange for completing small actions such as using the B.C. Shopping Sense tool to make healthy grocery choices or completing a Heart and Stroke Foundation risk assessment.

The idea is to get people to make small changes in a way that's much cheaper than traditional advertising campaigns, Social Change Rewards CEO Andreas Souvaliotis said Wednesday.

"It's replacing advertising with something smarter," he said.

He's convinced Canadians will flock to the app because the first two million users are promised extra points for signing up and referring friends.

"Canada is such a points happy society — Canadians love points — incentives in our country work very well," Souvaliotis said.

A new smartphone app created by the B.C. and federal governments will give people reward points of their choice for adopting healthy lifestyles. JOERN POLLEX/GETTY IMAGES

Indeed, a 2015 Yahoo study found that 90 per cent of Canadians have at least one loyalty card, with the average person participating in four rewards points programs.

The app itself cost less than a million bucks, with the remainder of the cash going towards project development and buying the rewards, he said.

It may seem pricey, but it's a fraction of the hundreds of millions the government spends on traditional advertising annually. (Preventative health care is also far less expensive than treating someone with diabetes or lung cancer.)

> **I hate to give governments credit... but is this a good strategy? Damn right it is.**
> Lindsay Meredith, marketing professor

Should Canadians embrace the app, Souvaliotis said it will be a "world first" to have such a large national audience engaged on one platform. It will also be an incredibly powerful data collection tool. The government will not have access to personal information, but it will be able to use aggregated data to analyze trends.

In order to prevent the tool from becoming political, health charities will be able to vet messages and veto notifications that could be seen as an abuse of the system, Souvaliotis said. The Heart and Stroke Foundation, the Canadian Diabetes Association and YMCA Canada are in this role.

The app will launch in B.C. this fall as a pilot before a countrywide launch in early 2016.

Simon Fraser University marketing professor Lindsay Meredith said the strategy is a "hot idea" that will "absolutely" be cheaper and more effective than traditional advertising.

"It's amazing what people will do for some lousy air miles points," he said.

The average consumer is bombarded by about 5,000 ads per day, he said, so it's incredibly hard to get a person's attention through the clutter.

Rewarding people for small actions can also convince them to actually change their behaviours, he added.

"I hate to give governments credit… but is this a good strategy? Damn right it is."

DISAPPEARANCE

Workers still missing

A perplexing mystery in the Okanagan is raising concerns of area police and the B.C. Fruit Growers Association.

There is still no sign of four farm workers, and association president Fred Steele says this is the first disappearance in the decade-long history of Mexican farmhands travelling to the Okanagan to help with fruit harvests.

The four men, who range in age from 27 to 39, were among 1,500 Mexicans working this summer in the Okanagan at farms or nurseries, as part of the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program. They had been in Canada for only 10 days when they took a cab into Vernon, June 26, from the North Okanagan orchard where they were employed, RCMP said. They cashed some cheques and haven't been heard from since.

"Right now, we don't have any idea where they are," said Gord Molendyk, Vernon RCMP spokesman.

Some of the other Mexicans interviewed by police at the orchard where the four were employed said they believed the men were going to try enter the U.S. illegally, he said. But it's also possible the four have simply gone to work on a different Okanagan farm, Molendyk said, and the orchardist hasn't yet advised officials who oversee the program, which is designed to help farmers who can't find enough Canadians willing to work in the orchards.

The Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program is overseen by both the Canadian and Mexican governments, that approve orchardists for participation, screen Mexican applicants, inspect the accommodation provided for farmhands, and ensure compliance with relevant employment and contract law.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Harmony comes to West Van

BACKSTAGE PASS

Festival offers free concerts, art market, food and fun

Graeme McRanor
Metro | Vancouver

Quick: What's got 50 free concerts and 150 musicians performing throughout 10 days in West Vancouver starting tomorrow?

It's the Harmony Arts Festival, of course.

Things get going tomorrow at 2 p.m. with the Fresh St. Art Market (Argyle Avenue). Featured artists include Leanne Christie, Anat Basanta, Hitomi McKenzie, Jeff Trigg, Sophia Kim and many more.

Later (5:45 p.m.), catch David Graff and the Continental Drifters performing at Millennium Park. There's also Me and Mae at John Lawson Park (7:30 p.m.), The Fab Forever Beatles Tribute (8:45 p.m. at Millennium), and a screening of the film Mamma Mia! (9 p.m. at John Lawson).

Musical highlights during the festival include Dal Richards' Orchestra (Monday, Aug. 3 from 2-4 p.m. in John Lawson Park), The Paperboys (Monday, Aug. 3 at 7:30 p.m. in John Lawson Park), The High Bar Gang (Tuesday, Aug. 4 at 7:30 p.m. in John Lawson Park), Madeline Merlo (Monday, Aug. 3 at 8:45 p.m. in Millennium Park) and Jim Byrnes (Tuesday, Aug. 4 at 8:45 p.m. in Millennium Park).

There's plenty of food and activities for the kids, too.

Check out the Harmony Arts Festival until Aug. 9. For more, visit HarmonyArts.ca.

Dido and Aeneas

Early Music Vancouver presents Henry Purcell's iconic Baroque masterpiece, Dido and Aeneas, at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts at UBC.

"Dido and Aeneas is a perfectly crafted mix of exquisite arias, moving choruses, and a delicate balance of melancholy and humour," says EMV artistic director Matthew White. "In particular, its stunning finale, Dido's Lament, is one of the most instantly recognizable and moving pieces in the operatic canon."

Check it out tonight at the Chan Shun Concert Hall (7:30 p.m.). There's also a pre-concert talk at 6:45 p.m. Tickets from $17.50. For more, visit ChanCentre.com.

The dark, inside us

Check out Liminal Darkness: A Celebration of Canadian Gothic Film, tonight at 7 p.m. at The Cinematheque. Gothic scholars Karen Budra and Julia Wright — with local actor/academic Buill Dow (Stargate/The X-Files) — will introduce segments from the Vancouver-shot series Supernatural and The X-Files. A screening of John Fawcett's cult classic, Ginger Snaps, will follow.

The Paperboys play Monday at John Lawson Park in West Vancouver as part of the annual Harmony Arts Festival. SUBMITTED

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ABBOTSFORD

Nine people shot in pellet gun spree

Nine people have been shot with a pellet gun during a string of troubling incidents in Abbotsford, police say.

Abbotsford police have released photos of a suspect vehicle after 15 separate pellet gun attacks in the area between July 18 and 27.

During the spree, four female pedestrians and five male pedestrians have been shot and injured.

Police say homes and other property have also been struck.

All of the cases involve a male suspect, believed to be between the ages of 18 and 25, shooting out of a dark-coloured sedan.

No arrests have been made, but on Wednesday Abbotsford police released two photos taken from surveillance footage of the suspect vehicle in the hopes of identifying the shooter.

Police say all of the incidents have happened between 3 p.m. and midnight, and the targets appear to be completely random.

If caught, the suspect could face charges of assault and mischief.

Anyone with information is asked to call Abbotsford police.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

Surveillance footage shows a suspect vehicle in a string of pellet gun shootings in Abbotsford. CONTRIBUTED

IN BRIEF

'No locals' policy disputed by hotel that turfed mom, kids

A hotel in Prince George says its employee was "misinformed" when he told a Prince George mother she was not welcome at the establishment.

Esther's Inn says a new manager at the front desk was wrong to refuse a room to 39-year-old Aimee Bespoyasny and her two teenaged children after learning they are residents.

According to a statement posted on the Esther's Inn Facebook page, the hotel vehemently denies having a "no locals" policy and adds the tone and context of the manager's words don't reflect the company's practice and beliefs.

Bespoyasny posted a letter on social media sites saying she planned to stay at the inn to celebrate her birthday and spend time with her children, but was rudely turned away.

She says before the manager ordered her to leave, he told her Esther's has a policy of banning locals because Prince George residents just drink beer and party in the rooms, forcing hotel staff to call police.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Phase 1 of cleanup done at Mount Polley disaster

IMPERIAL METALS

Creek stable, water flowing into lake is safe: Report

The company responsible for the collapse of a tailings dam at the Mount Polley mine site in central B.C. last year has completed the first stage of a massive recovery operation.

The B.C. Ministry of Environment released a report Wednesday that says Imperial Metals Corp. has taken steps to stabilize a creek and to ensure water entering nearby Quesnel Lake meets provincial standards.

About 24 million cubic metres of mine water and waste gushed into area waterways when the pond failed last August.

Environment Minister Mary Polak said the government has already spent about $6 million on its share of the work, while Imperial Metals' tally is nearing $67 million.

"Some of our costs, such as for investigation, are not recoverable because they fall within our regular duties, but we will be seeking to recover our costs for salary, overtime, travel, sampling costs and other expenses related to that," she said.

The company has performed much of the work, which is being overseen by the ministry, but Polak said the ministry has done its own sampling.

An Imperial Metals spokesperson was not immediately available to comment.

Polak said the water in the lake continues to be safe for drinking, fishing and recreation.

The contents of a tailings pond travel down the Hazeltine Creek into Quesnel Lake near the town of Likely, B.C., last year. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The ministry said stabilizing Hazeltine Creek during the first phase of the remediation work was meant to make it "safe" over the winter and when spring delivers higher water levels.

Polak said the company has removed wood debris from the lake, contained the remaining tailings, protected archaeological sites and fish habitat, treated water and participated in ongoing monitoring and reporting.

> **This is going to take decades ... where we see full remediation.**
> Mary Polak, Environment Minister

The next phase of the work is to continue through next summer.

The company must finish work to stop erosion and install fish habitat.

It must also continue to collect and test water samples, submit human and ecological risk assessments, as well as spill impact-zone remediation plans.

Polak said there's a long way to go before life returns to normal for people who live in the area.

"This is going to take decades to really get to a place where we see full remediation," she said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SURREY

Multi-car accident injures 7

Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

A driver struck a golf bag that was ejected from a Toyota 4Runner following a multi-vehicle collision in Surrey on Wednesday night.

The crash happened around 9:30 p.m. when a white Mercedes sedan travelling southbound on 152nd Street hit a Toyota 4Runner leaving the Guildford Golf and Country Club, said Cpl. Scotty Schumann of Surrey RCMP.

The Mercedes then crossed into the northbound lanes, where it struck a Dodge pickup truck travelling northbound.

Schumann said a golf bag was ejected from the back of the Toyota 4Runner, and the bag struck a fourth vehicle.

"A fourth car was hit by a golf (bag) that was ejected out of the vehicle that was impacted," he said. "That golf bag wasn't secured."

Seven people were involved in the collision and they all suffered minor injuries, he said.

One person was initially reported to have serious injuries, but they were later determined to be non-life-threatening.

Police believe speed may have been a factor in the crash, said Schumann. The collision is still under investigation, he said.

He said the incident serves as a reminder to always secure loose objects in vehicles before getting behind the wheel.

Anyone who witnessed the crash is asked to call Surrey RCMP at 604-599-0502 or Crime Stoppers at at 1-800-222-8477, if they wish to remain anonymous.

John Nuttall and Amanda Korody at court in Vancouver in May. FELICITY DON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

TERRORISM

Accused begged for imam, trial hears

A British Columbia man who alleges he was entrapped by undercover Mounties begged for religious guidance months before he was to carry out an attack on the provincial legislature, a court has heard.

John Nuttall pleaded with an undercover officer posing as a jihadi extremist several times starting in May 2013 for a "brother" to answer his questions, including whether Islam permitted the killing of innocent people, B.C. Supreme Court heard Wednesday.

"I need spiritual guidance," he said in transcripts read in court. "This is my soul we're talking about, my wife's soul. If Allah thinks it's forbidden to kill civilians and doesn't accept my jihad, then I'm going to go to hellfire."

Nuttall and his wife Amanda Korody, both recent converts to Islam, were found guilty last month of planning to detonate homemade pressure-cooker bombs at the B.C. legislature on Canada Day in 2013.

The couple's lawyers are in court to argue they were manipulated — that they feared they would be killed by officers posing as al-Qaida agents if they didn't follow through with a terrorist attack.

A Mountie responsible for training undercover officers to pass as jihadi extremists testified on Wednesday that the operation's commander emailed him in May 2013 to ask if he would pose as an imam.

RCMP Const. Tarek Mokdad said he called the commander, Sgt. Bill Kalkat, to refuse the request because he didn't have the skill to interpret the Qur'an the way a spiritual leader does.

"If you want me to play as a jihadist, sure. As an imam, no," Mokdad recalled saying.

In response to questions from Nuttall's lawyer, Marilyn Sandford, Mokdad said he now guessed the email was connected to Nuttall's pleas.

The undercover officer rebuffed Nuttall's repeated requests to talk to an imam. He told Nuttall in May 2013 that it was up to him to decide whether to follow through with his plan, which at that point involved a rocket attack.

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Prime Minister Stephen Harper steps out of his residence at 24 Sussex Drive in Ottawa in June. He's expected to call a federal election as early as Sunday.
ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tories seek free-trade deal before campaign kickoff

TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP

Harper poised to sign off on international blockbuster

The Conservatives are anxiously hoping to sign off on a massive free-trade deal before kicking off an election campaign that's expected to start as early as Sunday.

CBC reported that Prime Minister Stephen Harper will head to Rideau Hall in Ottawa on Sunday or Monday to ask Gov. Gen. David Johnston to dissolve Parliament to call a federal election as early as Aug. 2.

The federal government is at the negotiating table in Hawaii, where Trans-Pacific Partnership talks are reportedly in their final stages.

With voting day set for Oct. 19, the governing Tories want to launch the campaign with the deal in hand — an agreement they could brandish as evidence of their economic stewardship.

The partnership, a pact between 12 countries including Canada, the U.S., Mexico and Japan, is poised to become the biggest trade deal in history once ratified.

Experts say if the talks continue after the start of the campaign, they could prove politically sensitive for the government.

> **Canada cannot be left out of this kind of trade arrangement.**
> Prime Minister Stephen Harper

In particular, Canada is under pressure from other countries to lower the high tariffs that currently protect domestic producers of eggs, milk, cheese and poultry from foreign competition.

In an interview with Bloomberg, Harper is insisting the government will protect the interests of every Canadian industry "as best we can."

Harper says the negotiations are "well advanced" and that Canada "cannot be left out of this kind of trade arrangement."

THE CANADIAN PRESS/METRO

STUDY

Youth troubled by social media

Michael Woods
Metro | Ottawa

A new study of Ottawa middle and high school students shows that frequent use of social networking sites is associated with poor mental health among children and adolescents.

The Ottawa Public Health study shows that youth who report using sites such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for more than two hours a day also reported poor mental health, psychological distress, suicidal thoughts or an unmet need for mental-health support.

"Parents should consider frequent use of SNSs (social networking sites) as a possible indicator of, or risk for, mental health problems among children," the study said.

The study examined responses from 753 Ottawa students to the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey in 2013.

Lead study author Dr. Hugues Sampasa-Kanyinga said there has been some investigation of the effects of social networking on university-aged students, but little was known about its association with middle and high school students.

The study doesn't establish causality; mental health problems could be caused by a high use of social networking sites or vice versa, or both. Sampasa-Kanyinga said more study is needed to disentangle the relationship between social networking sites and mental health among children and adolescents.

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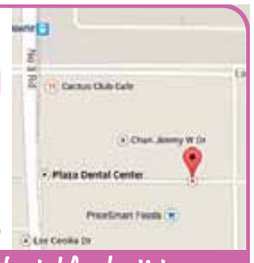

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NEW ZEALAND

Hundreds mourn Montreal hikers who died in avalanche

Two Montrealers who died in an avalanche while hiking in New Zealand were remembered on Wednesday as avid outdoorsmen as well as students who were talented, creative and involved.

New Zealand police confirmed that the two bodies found in debris near a popular hiking track were those of Louis-Vincent Lessard and Etienne Lemieux, who were both Université de Montreal industrial design students.

"They were marked by an overwhelming enthusiasm and infectious good mood," Fabienne Munch, the faculty of design's director, said in a statement published on the university's website.

"The school of design, its professors and classroom staff will remember their commitment and their charming smiles."

On Facebook, a page that was set up to help locate the 23-year-old students when they went missing turned into a memorial with hundreds of messages of condolence.

The families of both men acknowledged the authorities on the New Zealand police website, and thanked them for their attempts at finding the hikers.

Search and rescue teams found and recovered the bodies this week about 350 metres below the Kepler Track amid the avalanche debris.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

London-bound plane forced to land in Montreal

A London-bound plane carrying more than 300 people from the United States was forced to land in Montreal on Wednesday because of a bomb threat, police said.

The evacuation went smoothly, police said.

Police received a call about 40 minutes before the British Airways plane touched down at Pierre-Elliott-Trudeau International Airport.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ZIMBABWE

Lion kill deemed illegal

A hunting guide and a farm owner appeared in court Wednesday on allegations they helped an American dentist kill a protected lion named Cecil, and the head of Zimbabwe's safari association said the big cat was unethically lured into the kill zone and denied "a chance of a fair chase."

The Zimbabwean men were accused of aiding Walter James Palmer, who reportedly paid $50,000 to track and kill the black-maned lion. Zimbabwe police have said they are looking for Palmer, whose exact whereabouts were unknown.

During the nighttime hunt, the men tied a dead animal to their car to draw the lion out of a national park, said Johnny Rodrigues, chairman of the Zimbabwe Conservation Task Force.

The American is believed to have shot it with a crossbow, injuring the cat. The wounded lion was tracked for 40 hours before Palmer fatally shot it with a gun, Rodrigues said.

A professional hunter named Theo Bronkhorst was accused of failing to "prevent an unlawful hunt." Court documents say Bronkhorst was supervising while Palmer shot the animal.

Bronkhorst was released on $1,000 bail after appearing at the Hwange magistrate's court, about 700 kilometres west of the capital Harare, according to his defence lawyer, Givemore Muvhiringi.

If convicted, Bronkhorst faces up to 15 years in prison.

A second man, farm owner Honest Trymore Ndlovu, also appeared in court but was not charged and was released from custody, his lawyer Tonderai Makuku said.

Using bait to lure the lion is deemed unethical by the Safari Operators Association of Zimbabwe, of which Bronkhorst is a member. The association has since revoked his licence.

Palmer remained secluded Wednesday in the face of protests at his clinic and the online furor.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PALMER

U.S. lion hunter has Alberta connection

There appears to be a Canadian connection to a U.S. hunter at the centre of a social media storm for killing a protected lion in Africa. The Bowhunting Records of Alberta list a person named Walter Palmer who legally killed a mule deer in the province in October 2006.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Officer who killed driver faces murder charges

CINCINNATI

Race could be a factor in traffic stop shooting investigation

A University of Cincinnati police officer who shot a motorist during a traffic stop over a missing front licence plate has been indicted on murder charges, a prosecutor said Wednesday, adding that the officer "purposely killed him."

Prosecutor Joe Deters announced the grand jury indictment at a news conference to discuss developments in the investigation into the July 19 shooting of 43-year-old motorist Samuel DuBose by officer Ray Tensing.

DuBose's death comes amid months of national scrutiny of police dealings with African-Americans, especially those killed by officers. DuBose was black. Tensing is white. Authorities haven't indicated whether race was a part of the investigation.

Authorities have said Tensing spotted the car driven by DuBose and missing the front licence plate, which is required by Ohio law. They say Tensing stopped the car and a struggle ensued after DuBose refused to provide a driver's licence and get out of the car.

From left, family members Audrey DuBose, Aubrey DuBose, Cleshawn DuBose and Terina Allen listen as their attorney Mark O'Mara, left, speaks to the media after murder and manslaughter charges against University of Cincinnati police officer Ray Tensing were announced for the shooting death of Samuel DuBose, on Wednesday in Cincinnati. JOHN MINCHILLO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tensing has said he was dragged by the car and forced to shoot at DuBose. He fired one shot, striking DuBose in the head.

But Deters dismissed Tensing's claim that he was dragged by the car and suggested that he shouldn't have pulled DuBose over to begin with.

A warrant was issued for Tensing's arrest. Deters said Tensing could either turn himself in or officers could arrest him.

Body-camera video of the shooting was also released Wednesday. DuBose's family had been pressing for its release, and news organizations including The Associated Press had sued Deters to get it released under Ohio open records law, but Deters released it before any ruling had been made.

Deters called the shooting "senseless" and "asinine."

"He purposely killed him," Deters said. "He should never have been a police officer."

If convicted, Tensing could face as much as life in prison.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW MEXICO

Police dispatcher resigns over call

A teenager who called police but was told by a dispatcher to "deal with it yourself" before being hung up on said Wednesday she was panicked about a friend being shot, but stayed as calm as possible.

Seventeen-year-old Esperanza Quintero told The Associated Press that she wished dispatcher Matthew Sanchez had done more to help after her friend Jaydon Chavez-Silver was shot in June. He later died.

In the recording, Quintero snaps at Sanchez for repeatedly asking whether Chavez-Silver is breathing.

Sanchez resigned Tuesday, a day after the recording of the call was released. He was employed by the department for 10 years.

Fire Department spokeswoman Melissa Romero said Sanchez had dispatched an ambulance to the scene before he hung up and that it arrived less than five minutes after it was sent. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AFGHANISTAN

Taliban leader died 2 years ago: Agency

Afghanistan's main intelligence agency said Wednesday that the reclusive Taliban leader Mullah Mohammad Omar has been dead for more than two years.

The one-eyed, secretive head of the Taliban hosted Osama Bin Laden's al-Qaida in the years leading up to the Sept. 11 attacks and then waged a decade-long insurgency against U.S. troops after the 2001 invasion that ended Taliban rule.

He has not been seen in public since fleeing the invasion over the border into Pakistan.

Abdul Hassib Sediqi, the spokesman for Afghanistan's National Directorate of Security, said Mullah Omar died in a hospital in the Pakistani city of Karachi in April 2013.

"We confirm officially that he is dead," he told The Associated Press. It was not immediately clear why his death was only being announced now.

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World economy fragile: IMF

FINANCE

Chief says global markets are recovering but face risks

International Monetary Fund (IMF) chief Christine Lagarde says the world economy is recovering, but fragile, and "faces some downside risks."

In an online news conference Wednesday, Lagarde described the United States as "a strong performer" and China as "resilient" despite a recent drop in Chinese stock prices.

She also expressed optimism for the 19 countries that use the euro. The IMF expects the eurozone economy to grow 1.5 per cent this year and 1.7 per cent in 2016; it expanded just 0.8 per cent in 2014.

"The euro area is beginning to turn the corner.... We have a more upbeat forecast than we have in a long time," she said.

Lagarde called again for Greece's creditors to reduce its debt burden. She said Greece needs to enact reforms that will make its economy more efficient and expressed confidence that the IMF can work with Greece's left-wing government, which has criticized IMF policies.

"There are lots of things that you say (in politics)," she said. "What matters at the end of the day is what you do."

Lagarde noted that a drop in worldwide commodity prices is likely to hurt emerging market economies. And the global economy could face fallout if the Federal Reserve raises short-term U.S. interest rates, which it has kept near zero since late 2008. Fed Chair Janet Yellen has said a rate increase is likely this year. Lagarde has urged the Fed to delay the rate hike until 2016, citing the global economy's fragility.

The IMF managing director said Japan's attempts to boost its economy through easy money policies, government spending and economic reforms — an effort called "Abenomics" after Prime Minister Shinzo Abe — "is turning out to be positive."

The IMF expects the Japanese economy to expand 0.8 per cent this year after shrinking 0.1 per cent in 2014.

Lagarde shrugged off a recent sell-off in Chinese stocks, noting that China's shares are still 80 per cent higher than they were a year ago. The IMF expects the Chinese economy to grow 6.8 per cent this year, fast by global standards but the slowest for China since 1990.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IMF managing director Christine Lagarde speaks during a news conference after the IMFC in April. On Wednesday, Lagarde described the U.S. as a strong economic performer, and predicted growth in China and the European Union.

JOSE LUIS MAGANA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

> **"The euro area is beginning to turn the corner. We have a more upbeat forecast than we have (had) in a long time.**
>
> IMF Chief Christine Lagarde

REAL ESTATE

Breaking Bad home being sold for $1.6M

Two houses featured on the hit AMC-TV series Breaking Bad are up for sale in Albuquerque.

A mother-daughter realty team said this week they are helping sell the home where the fictitious Jesse Pinkman made methamphetamine on the hit show.

The house in Albuquerque's Country Club area is listed for $1.6 million.

Susan C. Feil and Alicia Feil Peterson of Coldwell Banker Legacy also listed another house that appeared in the series finale in Albuquerque's North Valley.

The sales team created a website to promote the houses, which includes the caveat "meth lab not included."

Breaking Bad follows former high school teacher Walter White, played by Bryan Cranston, producing methamphetamine with a former student, Jesse Pinkman, played by Aaron Paul. The series ended in 2013.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Aaron Paul, actor

DOUG HYUN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Yahoo Livetext app aims to make video chat private

Imagine making a video call without other people being able to listen in.

Yahoo is trying to make that happen with Livetext, a new app that seeks to make video calling as private as texting. Yahoo says video calls can be better than texts for expressing emotions. The app will be released Thursday in the U.S., Canada, Germany, France and the U.K. for Apple and Android devices.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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PUBLISHING

Torstar buys 56% stake in digital-media firm

Torstar Corp. is tapping into the world of niche online forums by picking up a stake in VerticalScope Holdings Inc., a Canadian company that serves the appetites of car fanatics and offers tips to pet lovers.

The publisher of the Toronto Star, which ditched its Harlequin romance novel business last year for $455 million, is spending $200 million for a 56 per cent stake in the digital media company.

"We've been assessing opportunities to employ capital that resulted from the Harlequin sale for over a year now," chief executive David Holland told analysts on Wednesday as Torstar reported a quarterly loss.

"It's an important step forward in the transformation of Torstar, positioning the company for growth in its more digitally oriented future."

Torstar was hit by another quarter where the downturn of print advertising revenue overshadowed its efforts to reduce costs across the operations. The company reported a loss attributable to shareholders of $1.1 million or a penny per share for the quarter ending June 30, compared with a profit of $19.7 million a year ago.

> **"The investment in the business provides Torstar exposure to the U.S. economy.**
>
> Torstar CEO David Holland

Operating revenue fell to $206.3 million from $225.6 million.

VerticalScope could offer relief from some of the troubles with its more than 600 consumer enthusiast online forums and premium content sites.

VerticalScope is based in Toronto and has about 130 employees.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Thursday, July 30, 2015

URBAN ETIQUETTE: ELLEN VANSTONE ON PEEING IN PUBLIC

THE QUESTION

In my country, men's urinals have privacy barriers, but in Canada there are none and I suffer performance anxiety in the washroom. What is your advice?

Dear Ellen,

In my country, men's urinals have privacy barriers, but in Canada, there are none and I suffer performance anxiety in the washroom when I'm trying to urinate. What is your advice?

F.X.

Dear F.X.

I am not familiar with the etiquette of men's washrooms, so I've never heard of this problem. I can tell you that many women are irritated by the lack of stalls in many public venues, which means we have to spend most of our time during intermissions at movies and concerts, and between innings or quarters at sporting events, lining up to wait for a stall — but at least we do have privacy when we finally get into one. So I heartily sympathize with your problem.

I have consulted a male friend from L.A. about this, and he says he's had the same problem. According to him, most washrooms in the U.S. have privacy barriers, except for the urinal at Dodger Stadium, which he describes as basically a "trough."

But when he's in Canada, even when his bladder is bursting, he can't "go" when there are men on either side of him. The thought that they are "checking him out" when he's trying to relieve himself makes it impossible for him to proceed with the business at hand.

His solution is to take out his phone and read his emails, which takes his mind off the men to his left and right. Then he's fine to do what he needs to do. I'm not sure this would work for everyone, but I'm not sure what else to suggest. If other male readers have encountered this problem and have any suggestions, I'd love to hear them.

While we're on the topic, I may as well put in a word about the stupidity of equipping public washrooms with cheap toilet paper. Just the other day, I was in a ladies' room where another woman was in a stall, cursing and hurling small bits of toilet paper on the floor, because it kept ripping off in little pieces every time she tried to pull off a few squares from the humungous but immovable roll of tissue in the dispenser.

I commiserated with her, and we discussed what a perfect example this was of false economy. Presumably the management bought cheap toilet paper to save money, but since management types are not the people who have to pick up millions of little bits of toilet paper off the floor, perhaps they don't realize how much is wasted.

As for women who "hover" over the toilet seat in order to avoid touching it, fair enough. But if you're going to spray all over the seat, it's only polite to wipe it afterwards, in consideration of the next person.

And I hope I don't have to tell anyone, male or female, to wash their hands afterward, right?

Need advice?
Email Ellen
scene@metronews.ca

THE MICROTREND: One more blow to Ebola

Though Ebola hysteria has blown over, the West African outbreak still has not. But this week saw some good news: The World Health Organization reported only seven new infections, the lowest in more than a year. But don't schedule a goodbye party just yet — the WHO was careful to say about 2,000 people who have been exposed to Ebola in the last 21 days are still walking around in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone — the crisis could reignite any time. SOURCE: WHO

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

Here's hoping we're seeing changes to the military's culture

This is it.

Canada's military leadership has the chance to prove that it will spare no one in the fight to rid the forces of sexual misconduct.

The signs so far are hopeful.

A high ranking, "up-and-coming" officer — Lt.-Col. Mason Stalker — is facing 10 sex-related charges after a male victim came forward to military police in April.

The allegations stem from Stalker's time as a cadet volunteer in Edmonton between 1998 and 2007.

Stalker will be tried in civilian court and that, says lawyer Michel Drapeau, is a significant move, given the military typically tries the cases internally. Drapeau, who has represented military sexual assault victims, said he now expects civilian trials will be the norm. (A Canadian Forces spokeswoman said military investigators will make that decision on a case-by-case basis). Civilian trials would be a critical improvement, given widespread condemnation of the military's handling of sexual-misconduct allegations, as detailed in the damning report by retired Supreme Court Justice Marie Deschamps, released earlier this year.

The Deschamps report identified a shocking lack of justice amid a culture of "endemic" sexual misconduct — a culture vividly illustrated by former chief of defence staff Gen. Tom Lawson last month when he blamed the problem on biological wiring.

Despite the fact civilian courts have taken over Stalker's case, the military is — rightly — continuing to investigate. So I hope it will answer a few pressing questions for me: Did others in the military know about the alleged assaults? If so, what did they do with that information?

The military will be judged not just for catching a single big fish, but also by its efforts to smoke out low-level players — those who witnessed, overheard, or otherwise knew about allegations — and punish them.

There will be no cleansing of the military's sexually-poisoned culture until it targets those who look the other way.

Last week, the new top soldier, Gen. Jonathan Vance, foreshadowed the Stalker charges, promising "changes and announcements in the near future" to show he's serious about tackling sexual assault.

I expect, then, not to wait much longer for the results of an ongoing military investigation into an alleged sexual assault at the prestigious Royal Military College in Kingston, Ont., which has already taken more than two months.

Here's hoping we're seeing the beginning of deep changes. They can't come quickly enough.

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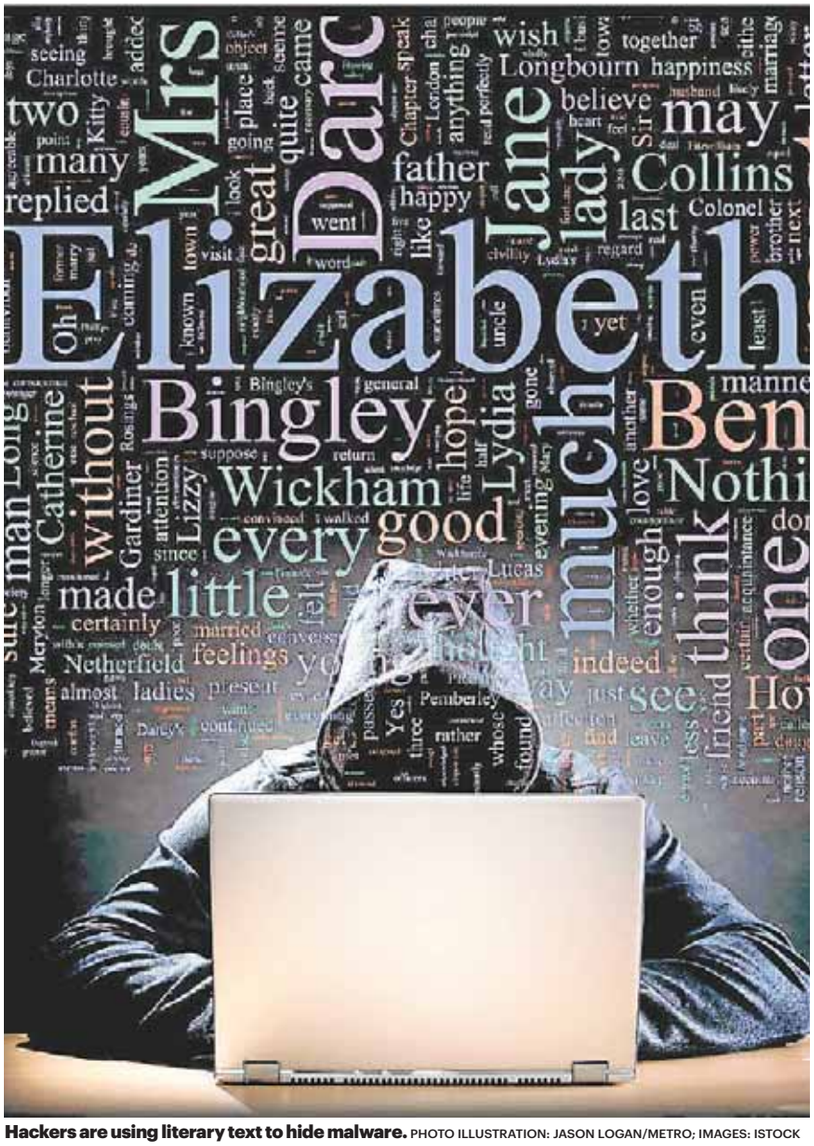
metro LIFE

Your essential daily news

Chris Pine to star as the love interest to Gal Gadot's Wonder Woman

Sense and hackability



Hackers are using literary text to hide malware. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: JASON LOGAN/METRO; IMAGES: ISTOCK

19TH CENTURY CODE

Malware takes a page (literally) from a Jane Austen novel

It would be a shock, a terrible shock, to Elinor Dashwood and the other characters in Sense and Sensibility, to see this happening.

Unbeknownst to her or author Jane Austen, it seems that hackers from the 21st century are appropriating text from the 19th-century classic novel to spread malicious software.

Researchers from Cisco Security said in a report released Tuesday that literary passages are becoming a new way to hide malicious code that allows hackers unlawful entry into computers and networks.

"Adding passages of classic text to an exploit kit landing page is a more effective obfuscation technique than the traditional approach of using random text," said researchers in their mid-year security report.

"The use of text from more contemporary works such as magazines and blogs is another effective strategy. Antivirus and other security solutions are more likely to categorize the web page as legitimate after 'reading' such text."

Cisco researchers said encountering references to Austen characters on a web page "may be perplexing but not a cause for immediate concern."

Jason Brvenik, a Cisco engineer, said it remains a mystery about who is behind the literary hacking or why that novel was chosen over others.

"It is a seemingly random selection but it always from that book," he said.

Still, the technique opens the door for dastardly exploits from computer hackers, according to Cisco.

Hackers can deliver a variety of malicious "payloads" through these tools, according to Cisco, including "ransomware," a growing technique that locks a user's files unless a ransom is paid.

The researchers said this is just one example about how hackers are innovating to find ways around computer protection.

"Hackers, being unencumbered, have the upper hand in agility, innovation and brazenness," Brvenik said.

"We see this time and again, whether it is nation-state actors, malware, exploit kits or ransomware." AFP

LITERARY SMACKDOWNS

Use every hack in the book
If Jane Austen-loving hackers had a malicious sense of humour, here's what their malware quotes would attack:

- **Snapchat** "Life seems but a quick succession of busy nothings." (Mansfield Park)
- **Twitter** "To flatter and follow others, without being flattered and followed in turn, is but a state of half enjoyment." (Persuasion)
- **iTunes** "Without music, life would be a blank to me." (Emma)
- **Tinder** "She is tolerable, but not handsome enough to tempt me." (Pride and Prejudice)
- **Facebook** "I will not torment myself any longer by remaining among friends whose society it is impossible to enjoy." (Sense and Sensibility)
- **Humblebrags** "Nothing is more deceitful than the appearance of humility. It is often only carelessness of opinion, and sometimes an indirect boast." (Pride and Prejudice)

HENRIETTA WALMARK/METRO

HISTORICAL FICTION

Author feels instant connection with adventurous new subject

Emily Laurence
Metro in New York

People are always telling author Paula McLain who to write about next. "I'll be at Target and (someone) will say, 'Oh James Joyce had a crazy wife. You should write about that!'" says McLain, whose first book The Paris Wife, a historical fiction about Ernest Hemingway's wife became a New York Times best-seller.

Three years later, McLain is back with another historical fiction book, Circling The Sun, this time about Beryl Markham, a glamorous British expat living in 1920s Kenya, who had no shortage of adventures, and affairs.

An instant spark

"I had a million ideas about who to write about next, but for me, there has to be a mysterious, powerful, profound connection," McLain tells us.

"I felt that instantly with Beryl when I read her memoir West With The Night."

McLain had never heard of Markham, but she says the connection was immediate. "All the hairs on my arm just stood up and I thought, I don't know who this woman is, but I am going to write about her. That's it. It's done."

An unexpected connection

She discovered they had amazing connections, such as the fact their mothers had both abandoned them at the age of four and re-entered their lives when they were 20.

McLain says once she realized their common connections, the architecture of the book came together quickly.

"I knew I wanted to write about her early life as opposed to her later life because I was interested in how she got the way she was," McLain says of her subject.

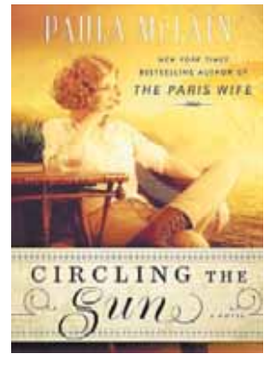
"Gossip followed Beryl her whole life. It's like, who didn't she sleep with? …

"I was compelled to psychoanalyze her based on some of my own psychology because we had this piece of the story."

Trailblazer

Markham was indeed interesting, becoming the first woman licensed to be a professional racehorse trainer and the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic from East to West. She had countless affairs, including with a prince.

Markham loved Kenya — "It was truly her Eden," McLain tells us — but McLain resisted visiting Africa until after the book was written. "You can't really visit Kenya in 1917, except in your imagination," she says.



BROKEN PROMISE — AN EXCERPT IN FOUR PARTS BY LINWOOD BARCLAY

BILL TAYLOR

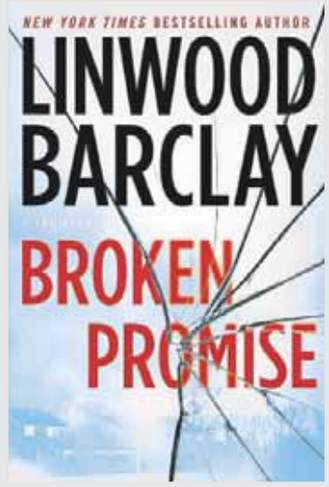
PART 4 OF 4

Something dark has infected Promise Falls
Bestselling thriller author Linwood Barclay returns this month with Broken Promise (Doubleday, July 28, $22.95) the first book in an explosive new trilogy.

Yesterday, we left David trying to find out how his cousin Marla ended up with a baby who clearly isn't her own. The more David listens to Marla's story of a stranger giving her the baby, the more concerned he becomes.

Excerpted from Broken Promise by Linwood Barclay. Copyright © 2015 Linwood Barclay. Published by Doubleday Canada, a division of Penguin Random House Canada Limited, a Penguin Random House Company. Reproduced by arrangement with the Publisher. All rights reserved.

I checked out the stroller. It was in the folded position. On the right handle were more bloody smudges that looked like the one I'd seen on the doorjamb



"We need to know who bore this child," I told Marla. "Like, medical history. You need to know about his real mother and father, what diseases or conditions they might have."

"Why don't you want me to be happy, David?" Marla asked. "Don't you think, after all I've been through, I deserve some happiness?"

I didn't know what to say, but it turned out I didn't have to come up with something. Marla said, "I'm going to freshen up. Now that you're here, I can have a shower, put on some clean clothes. I was thinking Matthew and I would go out and get a few things."

"The stroller, behind the door," I said. "Did you buy that yesterday?"

"No, the angel brought that," she said, and slipped into the bathroom and closed the door.

I checked out the stroller. It was in the folded position. On the right handle were more bloody smudges that looked like the one I'd seen on the doorjamb.

I opened up the contraption and found stale, dry Cheerios, three rattles, a small wooden car with thick wooden wheels, and a flyer for a store that sold baby supplies. On the flyer was an address for Rosemary Gaynor, of 375 Breckonwood Drive.

I got out my cell, tapped on the app that would allow me to find a number for the Gaynor household. But once I had it under my thumb, I considered whether making the call was the smartest thing to do.

Maybe it made more sense to go over there. Right now. I heard water running in the bathroom. The shower. The phone still in my hand, I called home.

It picked up on the first ring. "Yeah?"

"Dad, I need to talk to Mom."

"What's up?"

"Just put her on."

A fumbling sound, a muted "He wants to talk to you." And then: "What is it, David?"

"Something's happened here at Marla's Mom, there's a baby here."

"What?"

"She's got a baby. She says it's hers. She says some woman came to the door and just gave it to her. But the story, it's just not holding water. Mom, I'm starting to wonder ... I hate to say this, but I'm wondering — God, this sounds totally crazy — but I'm wondering if she snatched this kid from someone."

"Oh, no," Mom said. "Not again."

HARPER LEE BESTSELLER

Watchman sales drop

Sales dropped sharply for Harper Lee's Go Set a Watchman in its second week of publication. But it remained the bestselling book in the United States for the week ending July 26, according to Nielsen BookScan. On Wednesday, Nielsen reported sales of 220,000 for Watchman, less than a third of Nielsen's total for the novel's first week on sale.

Publisher HarperCollins announced last week that Watchman panned by many critics, had already sold around 1.1 million copies in North American alone.

1.1 M

The number of copies of Go Set a Watchman already sold in North America

The total includes ebooks, audiobooks and pre-orders for Watchman, which topped bestseller lists soon after HarperCollins revealed in February that a second novel was coming from the author of To Kill a Mockingbird. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Women share what's written on the body

SOCIAL MEDIA

#Thighreading the latest body-positive selfie trend

If you've got lines on your thighs that would never in a million years see the light of Instagram then it's time to reassess, because "#thighreading" is the latest beauty statement to hit social media.

The hashtag was started on Twitter earlier this month by student @princess_labia, who shared a photo of the stretch marks gracing her thighs with her 10,000 followers.

The accompanying caption "palm readings <<<< thigh readings" struck a chord with the Internet and the hashtag #thighreading had soon made the transition to Instagram.

"There are so many faces and body types and features that girls never get to see reflected back at them," the student told Elite Daily.

> **Something that is as normal, common and beautiful as stretch marks is something we've been taught to be ashamed of, to be alone with**
> @princess_labia

"Girls have tweeted back at me that they had no idea so many women have stretch marks, and that's so sad, right?

"Something that is as normal, common and beautiful as stretch marks is something we've been taught to be ashamed of, to be alone with."

The body-positive trend has seen Instagram users such as @miss_london posting pictures of their stretch marks or other 'imperfections' alongside inspiring hashtags such as #storyofmybody, #confidence and #stillbeautiful.

One user @bethoneyy posted the message: "I have cellulite and stretch marks but that doesn't mean I'm not "normal" or beautiful!", while @cassidyparkes captioned her photo "Big thighs save lives."

Thigh reading is the latest social media campaign to focus on positive body image for women this year.

It follows the success this spring of the Instagram account @Loveyourlines, launched to promote "real women, real bodies and real self love."

It comes after various celebrities got real about their imperfections, with supermodel Chrissy Teigen posting one memorable shot of her legs captioned: "Stretchies say hi!"

AFP

Women have taken to Twitter to share images of their thighs in the latest body positive trend. @MISS_LONDON_/INSTAGRAM

BIRKIN BAGS

Take my name off that croc!

British singer Jane Birkin has asked Hermes to take her name off the crocodile-skin versions of the iconic Birkin handbag, after being contacted by animal rights group PETA over "cruel" slaughtering practices.

A PETA video from June shows several reptiles at a Texas farm that supplies crocodile skins to Hermes left twitching in a bloody ice container to die after being shot with a captive bolt gun and cut with a knife.

Birkin said in a statement obtained Wednesday that she was "alerted to the cruel practices ... to make Hermes handbags carrying my name" and has "asked Hermes to de-baptize the Birkin Croco until better practices in line with international norms can be put in place."

The Birkin bag was created in 1984 by Hermes in honour of the famed singer and ex-girlfriend of Serge Gainsbourg, and is, still today, one of the world's most exclusive luxury items. The bag is beloved by stars such as Victoria Beckham and comes in calf, ostrich, lizard as well as crocodile. It can cost between $10,000 and $100,000, with waiting lists to buy famously stretching into the years.

PETA said it takes three crocodile belly skins to make one handbag.

No publicly listed phone number for Lone Star Alligator Farms in Winnie, Texas, about 80 kilometres east of Houston, could immediately be located Wednesday.

Contacted by The Associated Press, Hermes said it "respects and shares (Birkin's) emotions" and was "shocked by the images recently broadcast."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jane Birkin tells Hermes to take her name off the iconic Birkin bag. GETTY

AWKWARD

Hammer didn't know he was nude

Armie Hammer

The joys of young parenthood can sometimes cloud your judgment, as The Man from U.N.C.L.E. star Armie Hammer learned.

"I found out today that I have nude pictures on my phone," he tells Jimmy Kimmel. The revelation came after discussing his 8-month-old daughter with a hairstylist. "The lady said, 'Do you have any pictures of your daughter?' I said, 'Of course! I've got tons of pictures!'" he explains. "I'm going through my phone ... and I get to pictures where ... she's kind of lounging on the sink and she looks like she's having the time of her life. I'm showing her these pictures and I'm like, 'Look at how cute she is! We're in the bathroom. She's just right in the bathtub.' And after showing her these pictures for about 30 seconds I realize that I'm standing fully nude in the mirror of this bathroom as I'm showing her these pictures. As quickly and casually as possible, I went, 'Anyway, you get the picture!'" NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO

Affleck denies dating the nanny

According to US Weekly, Ben Affleck is dating his kids' nanny. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

RELATIONSHIPS

Who doesn't love a good divorce cliché? Garner, for one

Ned Ehrbar

Here's a classic: Ben Affleck is reportedly following up his split from Jennifer Garner by shacking up with … his kids' nanny, Christine Ouzounian, according to Us Weekly.

Come on, Ben. That's just tacky. Have you learned nothing from Jude Law?

Anyway, Ouzounian stared working for Affleck and Garner during the couple's alleged secret 10-month trial separation, and sparks just kind of started flying. As they do. "They would hang out without the kids, and they were very flirty," a source says. "She says Ben really, really likes her. She's saying this is true love." Of course she is.

Because a grumpy movie star just out of a 10-year marriage is what relationship stability is made of.

Garner, as you might imagine, was not so pleased when she reportedly found out about their extracurricular dealings and promptly fired the Arizona State University grad.

But spell-check defier Ouzounian has still been in text and email contact with Affleck and even spent some time at his newly minted L.A. bachelor pad earlier this month. So there.

Affleck, for his part, is having none of this nanny-dating story.

His rep tells E! News that the "story is not true. It's tabloid journalism hiding behind blind sources. It's a shameful ploy to stay relevant for the magazine. We are considering legal options." Oh snap.

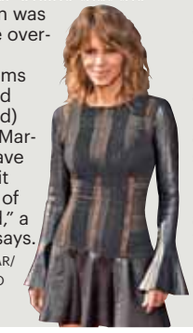
BERRY ON THE BRINK, TATUM'S GAMBIT

Is Halle Berry's marriage on the rocks?

The latest contestant on Hollywood Wedding Ring watch is apparently Halle Berry, who is getting attention this week for showing up for some child-minding duties sans gold band.

And sorrowful sources tell Radar Online that the omission was no mere oversight.

"It seems Halle and (husband) Olivier (Martinez) have finally hit the end of the road," a source says. NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO



Channing Tatum looking to get out of Gambit

There's potential trouble in superhero land, as Channing Tatum is reportedly eyeing a swift exit from Fox's stand-alone film Gambit, about the fan-favourite Cajun mutant, according to the Wrap.

Tatum's reps are said to be in active discussions with the studio, but "something is up." Tatum is also involved with the project as a producer, and it's unclear if he'll stay on in that capacity should he bow out of starring.

The film is set to be released in October 2016, and Tatum appeared earlier this month at Comic-Con to hype it. NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO

BEEF

Drake slugs Meek Mill with diss track, Joe Carter pic

Touch 'em all, Drake.

The Toronto rapper invoked beloved ex-Blue Jays slugger Joe Carter with his latest shot in his ongoing feud with rapper Meek Mill. The Grammy winner issued Back to Back overnight, accompanied by a photo of Carter's triumphant trot following his World Series-winning walk-off home run in 1993. Of course, Toronto's opponent that year was Philadelphia — Mill's home town. After Charged Up, it's Drake's second lyrical response to Mill, who alleged on Twitter recently that Drake doesn't write his own rhymes. On Back to Back, the 28-year-old Drake takes several shots at Mill's relationship to rap titan Nicki Minaj, a longtime cohort of Drake's whom Mill is currently supporting on tour. "You love her, then you gotta give the world to her," Drake raps. "Is that a world tour or your girl's tour?" Minaj performed in Toronto on Tuesday and allowed Mill to make a cameo appearance during her headlining set. Several fan-shot videos depict Mill being heartily booed by the partisan Toronto crowd. Posted early Wednesday morning, Drake's freestyle seems to reference the fresh incident. "I mean, whoa, can't fool the city man, they know what's up." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Drake

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THE POWER OF LANGUAGE

What's in a word? A lot, when it comes to identity

Ryan Porter
Metro | Life

defining Pride

[prahyd] An epic string of LGBTQ community rallies that celebrate you doing you!

Sarah Rotella and Adrianna DiLonardo are often asked why their popular YouTube comedy channel is called the Gay Women's Channel. Both of its creators identify as lesbian — "I also identify as a catlady," Rotella, 28, adds.

"We like to use the term gay as a hat that includes everyone in the spectrum," says DiLonardo, 28. "It might not be politically correct. Gay is usually associated with gay men."

With Pride festivities in full swing, how to refer to the community that is being celebrated depends on whom you ask. Monikers span the overly simplistic term "gay" to the mouthful acronym "LGBTTIQQ2SA" (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, transsexual, intersex, queer, questioning, two-spirit, asexual/ally).

"If you're in the straight world, it would be the all-encompassing word 'gay,'" says Helen Kennedy, executive director of LGBT advocacy group EGALE. But you don't have to look very far to find someone who bristles at being corralled into that catchall term. When pressed by Diane Sawyer prior to her transition, for example, Caitlyn Jenner described herself as asexual.

"I understand the ease of using just one word to sum it up, but there are lots of issues around who you are fighting for when you are saying 'gay' rights," Sidney Drmay, co-ordinator of the queer and trans group RyePride at Ryerson University, says. "Are we thinking about black trans women or are we just thinking about white gay dudes?"

Drmay, 20, identifies as queer and non-binary, using the pronouns "they, them and their" in place of "she/he, her/him, and her/his." "I don't like the idea of girl/boy," they says. "I prefer 'them' because I like being able to separate myself from the binary of gender. There are a lot of genders. Trying to insist that there are only two is ridiculous."

As the Outreach Committee Chair for Ottawa-based transgender group Gender Mosaic, Amanda Ryan has found it nearly impossible to come to a consensus on the trans experience. "If you put 1,000 trans people into a room and ask them to come up with a definition of trans you would come up with 1,000 different definitions," says Ryan.

Far simpler for the 63-year-old is navigating the pronouns "he" and "she."

"If I am presenting female, I do prefer the female pronouns," she says. "And when I am presenting male it's he. When I am addressed as female by the public it acknowledges that I am seen (as female) by them. It does make a difference."

Jeremy Dutcher, 24, might swap his "he" pronouns for more gender-neutral pronouns when working in his capacity as the Aboriginal Projects Co-ordinator at EGALE. Dutcher identifies as two-spirit, an indigenous concept for someone with two souls — one male, one female.

Originally celebrated for their spiritual significance within indigenous tribes, today the term is applied broadly to indigenous people who identify as LGBTQ.

While '2S,' for two-spirit, is included in the larger acronym, Dutcher prefers the acronym LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and queer). But when EGALE was doing work surrounding youth homelessness, Dutcher advocated for the acronym LGBTQ2S to acknowledge the disproportionately high number of two-spirit youth living on the street.

Yet using the full acronym — LGBTTIQQ2SA — can prompt a teachable moment. Drmay often uses it in their work with RyePride. "It's also a really great learning opportunity because people might be like, I don't recognize that letter," they say. "What is that letter for?"

And while LGBTTIQQ2SA doesn't exactly roll off the tongue, the conversation alone has the power to raise awareness about gender and sexual identity. "Language is powerful," Dutcher says. "LGBT folks have been pushing those boundaries around, 'what is inclusion?.' The fact that we really make space for people to identify how they want to identify I think is awesome."

7 VIEWS ON THAT REALLY, REALLY LONG ACRONYM

What part of LGBTTIQQ2SA don't you understand? Can we really make the acronym — it stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, transgender, intersex, queer, questioning, two spirit, asexual/ally — work? Community leaders share their thoughts.

"I think it's really important to identify as many of the identities as you can within the acronym because I think every identity needs to be recognized."
HELEN KENNEDY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR EGALE

"It's confusing. We waste a lot of time arguing over definitions. What can we do to work together?"
AMANDA RYAN, OUTREACH COMMITTEE CHAIR FOR GENDER MOSAIC

"If our straight allies are having trouble with LGBT, it's probably pushing it a bit to add on further. Intention is what matters and how we act is what matters."
STEVEN PETROW, WASHINGTON POST COLUMNIST

GLOSSARY

LGBTQ need-to-know terms during Pride Week

Metro asked Ryan Porter, a freelance writer and former editor of the now defunct Toronto-based Fab magazine, to define some common LGBT slang to help you navigate the otters and puppies and bears (oh my!) during your local Pride festivities.

BEAR: *[bair]* A hirsute gay man of notable heft, often found in plaid, denim or Montana's

BREEDER: *[bree-der]* A heterosexual celebrated for their baby-making skills

BUTCH: *[boo-ch]* A lesbian of masculine demeanour or advanced home-reno skill

CHASER: *[chey-ser]* One attracted to bears who is not themselves a bear, but will happily eat all of their porridge and pass out (we're looking at you, Goldilocks)

CISGENDER: *[sis-jen-der]* A person whose gender corresponds to the sex organs they were born with (but we love them, anyway)

CRUISE: *[krooz]* To prowl for intimate relations in a manner that may be considered filthy, scandalous and abhorrent by well-bred individuals (Prince Harry excluded)

CUB: *[kuhb]* The iPad Mini to the bear's iPad — younger, smaller and more affordable

DADDY: *[dad-ee]* An older man in a relationship who provides mentorship and all-around parental-style bossiness to the younger man, who may be called the "boy"

DRAG MOTHER: *[drag muhth-er]* The drag queen who mentors a young protégé in the illusionary arts

F-TO-M/M-TO-F: *[ef-too-em/em-too-ef]* If you were to describe a trans person's journey from one gender to another using a maximum of five letters, these would be those five

FEMME: *[fem]* A queer person dripping in stereotypically feminine characteristics, dahling

KIKI: *[kee-kee]* A small congregation of gay people assembling for the purpose of chit-chat, juicy disclosures and general shenanigans

LIPSTICK LESBIAN: *[lip-stik lez-bee-uh n]* A lady who loves her Maybelline almost as much as she loves boobs

MUSCLE MARY: *[muhs-uh l mair-ee]* A hulking gay man who looks terrifying but actually has the complete works of Britney Spears memorized

OTTER: *[ot-er]* A hairy gay man too slender to be considered a bear and the generally agreed upon limit of really pushing this animal thing

PASS: *[pas]* to be recognized as the gender you are presenting because is that really so much to ask for?

POCKET GAY: *[pok-it gey]* A gay man of diminutive stature who is nonetheless desirable the way King Kong really thought it would work out with Naomi Watts

POWER BOTTOM: *[pou-er bot-uh m]* A receiving sexual partner who should really see someone about their control issues

POZ: *[paws]* A person who is living (or — just maybe — thriving) with HIV

PUPPY PLAY: *[puhp-ee pley]* When two people role-play as a puppy dog and its master, except for some reason, they are both wearing, like, a lot of leather

QUEENING OUT: *[kwee-ning out]* an outlandish display of royally diva-esque behaviour by a gentleman that may inspire Wayne's World-style bowing down

READ: *[reed]* A sassy dressing down using choice witty zingers, as in, "she read that queen like it was another excellent edition of the Metro"

STR8: *[strāt]* An alternate spelling of straight, generally used by gay men in personal ads who would love to spell out the "-aight" but are just far too horny

SHADE: *[sheyd]* A side-eyed style of cutting remark developed by New York drag queens possessed by the ghost of Joan Crawford

TEA: *[tee]* Gossip too hot to spill without at least one pinky finger held aloft

TRANS*: *[trāns*]* A catchall term referencing transmen, transwomen, transgender, transsexual, transvestite and all other trans superstars

TWINK: *[twingk]* A young, slim, hairless gay man who may or may not have purchased his accessories at Ardene

VERSATILE: *[vur-suh-tl]* One whose sexual roles are as eclectic and diverse as the performances of Meryl Streep

"It's a mouthful, is it not? Personally, I don't believe it is useful. I use the short form LGBTQ because I could never ever remember all the letters."

STEPHEN HARTLEY, PFLAG CANADA PRESIDENT

"It still starts with LGBT. The further down you go, the letters get ignored."

SARAH ROTELLA, CO-HOST OF YOUTUBE'S GAY WOMEN'S CHANNEL

"Are we doing a disservice if we don't represent every letter? Perhaps. That's where the beauty of LGBTQ (for queer) comes in, because the Q opens up a lot of space for non-normative experiences."

JEREMY DUTCHER, ABORIGINAL PROJECTS CO-ORDINATOR FOR EGALE

"It's the term that a lot of people will recognize. (By saying) the queer community, they might think you are only talking about gay dudes and gay women."

SIDNEY DRMAY, CO-ORDINATOR AT RYEPRIDE

PRIDE PROTOCOL

In his Washington Post column Civilities, Steven Petrow offers his advice on LGBT etiquette.

Here the author of the book Complete Gay & Lesbian Manners answers our burning questions about proper forms of address during Pride.

Is it okay to say "Gay Pride"?

The most inclusive terminology is to say "the LGBT community."

When we use the word gay, for some people lesbians are included, for some they are not, and using the word gay alone definitely does not include transsexual and transgendered people.

What do I call the people in a same-sex couple?

The most important thing is to not downgrade anyone in a relationship.

Partner is better than boyfriend if they are in a committed relationship and if they are married, husband or wife is preferred.

How do I ask someone what their orientation is?

Why would someone have a need to ask another what their sexual orientation is unless they are planning to go to bed with them?

Well-meaning questions are fair to ask but people should always ask themselves first, 'Why am I interested in this? Is there anything beyond curiosity?' If the answer is no, put a lid on it.

RYAN PORTER/FOR METRO

A reveller dances as bubbles float in the air during the Vancouver Pride Parade last year.
DARRYL DYCK/ THE CANADIAN PRESS PHOTOS

Rainbow flags fly at a past Parade. The Vancouver Pride Society says it's still about affecting social change.

Time to celebrate

PRIDE PARADE

Where to see the parade plus where to catch a few parties

Daniel Squizzato
For Metro

There's no better day of the year to show your pride than this Sunday, when the 37th annual Vancouver Pride Parade winds its way through the downtown core.

The parade gets underway at noon at the corner of Robson and Thurlow, then moves along Robson to Denman, down Denman to Beach and wraps up at around 3 p.m. at the corner of Beach and Jervis.

Get there early to secure your spot along the route — and don't forget your water and sunscreen! Or, if you'd rather enjoy the show with the benefits of air conditioning, check out the official parade viewings at AllStar Wings and Ribs ($35, eventbrite.ca) or The Boathouse ($45, eventbrite.ca).

But the party doesn't end when the parade does. The Pride Festival at Sunset Beach (at the end of the parade route) will feature a variety of exhibitors, musicians, speakers and, yes, a beer garden until 6 p.m. And the official Pride after-party, Pink, will have food and dancing for the 19+ crowd over at Lips Resto ($10, eventbrite.ca).

There's also Dining With Divas — featuring a variety of drag performances in support of the Foundation of Hope — at The Boathouse from 4 p.m. to midnight ($45, eventbrite.ca), while AllStar Wings and Ribs will be hosting Swirl, with headlining act DJ Citizen Jane, from 4 p.m. to 1 a.m. ($25, eventbrite.ca).

For those taking pride in living clean and sober, Untoxicated (featuring Alaska Thunderf#ck 5000 from RuPaul's Drag Race) will kick off at 7 p.m. in the parking lot of Shoppers Drug Mart at 1125 Davie St. ($15 advance, $20 at the door).

And those are just a few of the events running at different locations in Davie Village through the weekend, a list that also includes a block party, a barbecue, a pancake breakfast, a youth dance, and more.

Given the limited parking available, organizers are urging attendees to take transit. Vancouver City Centre (Canada Line) and Burrard (Expo/Millennium Lines) are the SkyTrain stations closest to the parade's starting point.

BACKGROUND

650,000+ people at event

While this weekend's parade promises to be a party, the event wasn't always a celebration.

"It didn't start as a parade," says Tim Richards, president of the Vancouver Pride Society (VPS), which organizes the event. "There were marches in the beginning, protest marches for equality."

Those 1970s marches evolved into the Pride Parade, though the precise timeline remains unclear to this day. VPS recognizes this year's event as the 37th annual parade, though Richards says his organization is making efforts to "engage in some dialogue with the community to understand more about our roots."

It is clear, however, that in the early years, making the parade financially possible fell mostly on the shoulders of community businesses. But as social attitudes have changed, the Pride Parade has gained more corporate and political support — most notably in 2013, when the event received civic status.

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Your essential daily news

The smartphone pocket in Ikea's Sittning placemat reminds you to power down during mealtime

What they're a$king

Want to invest in the condo market? Check out this selection of new builds and pre-construction one-bedroom condominiums. If you're willing to wait a while, buying from plans can save you a bundle.

Duncan McAllister FOR METRO

OUR CITY

$329,900

Vancouver

Kensington Gardens is a new master-planned community by Vancouver developer Westbank. The featured price is for a 568-sq.-ft., one-bedroom condo suite. Each unit features open balconies or terraces. Kensington Gardens is an integrated urban community comprising three unique residential towers, a collection of townhouses and a residential podium, linked by an elevated landscaped courtyard. The development boasts five-star, hotel-quality amenities. Call 604-620-7886 or visit kensingtongardens.ca for more information.

$233,900

Winnipeg

Phase 1 of Oxbow of Tuxedo Point is a new, multi-unit condo development now under construction on the Sterling Lyon Parkway. $233,900 is the starting price for a one-bedroom suite, with occupancy slated for late fall 2015. The suites offer engineered hardwood floors, granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. The development by Towers Realty Group and Pre-Con Builders is situated between a retail shopping complex and the greenery of Assiniboine Forest Park. For more information contact 204-255-8436 or visit oxbowcondos.com.

$255,000

Calgary

Built by the Qualex-Landmark Group, Park Point's 34-storey, mixed-use residential tower features 289 suites and overlooks historic Central Memorial Park, one of Canada's oldest urban parks. Located in the heart of Calgary's Beltline, Park Point will host nearly 9,000 sq. ft. of owner-accessible building amenities atop the tower podium. Residents will enjoy panoramic views of the city and the park, in Calgary's rapidly evolving urban city centre. For more information contact 403-244-2428 or visit qualex.ca.

$264,000

Toronto

Here's a 482-sq.-ft., one-bedroom suite at Islington Terrace by Tridel, currently in pre-construction in the historic Islington Village neighbourhood. The transit-friendly community offers quick access to the Islington subway station and Mississauga Transit terminal. The building is located close to shopping and restaurants along the Kingsway on Bloor. There's 50,000 sq. ft. of amenity space including a fitness centre, indoor pool and outdoor terrace. For more information call 416-645-8862, or email islingtonterrace@tridel.com.

$374,000

Ottawa

Cathedral Hill by Windmill Developments is currently under construction on the western edge of downtown. Featured is the one-bedroom Corus suite at 743 sq. ft. The condo promises exceptional views of the Ottawa River, Gatineau Park, Parliament Hill and Sparks Street. The full range of lifestyle amenities includes an executive concierge. This sustainable development is targeting LEED gold standard, and offers the convenience of downtown living within natural green surroundings. Contact Chantal Smith at 613-566-7010 for more information.

$299,900

Halifax

Seapoint is the first landmark condominium at the 22-acre Harbour Isle Waterfront Village. It's currently in pre-construction in Dartmouth, and boasts stylish suites, inspired architecture and active lifestyle amenities. The units will feature large balconies with views of the harbour, the city skyline and the Dartmouth Yacht Club next door. The Bridgewater suite is 940 sq. ft. with a 158-sq.-ft. balcony, available on floors six through 16. Visit gettheseapoint.com for more details.

$310,000

Edmonton

Link condos at Ellerslie is a new, eight-storey midrise building by Regency Developments in the MacEwan neighbourhood of South Edmonton. The concrete and steel structure has 105 suites, and the underground parkade is now under construction to be completed in late 2016. There's plenty of greenery and landscaping. All balconies have natural gas hookups and there's a full rooftop patio. The development is close to amenities with quick access to the rest of the city. For more information, contact 780-497-1700 or visit linkellerslie.ca.

METRO SPACES

Homes in South Surrey

The start of school is just around the corner and families are looking for a place to settle before their kids start sharpening their pencils for fall.

For couples, families and empty nesters alike, the neighbourhood of Grandview Heights in South Surrey is an appealing option. It's green and quiet with access to schools and transportation, and with great nearby shops and neighbourhood amenities.

"Grandview Heights is the perfect community because of its combination of a central location and quiet, neighbourhood feel," says Vanessa Isler, sales and marketing manager of StreetSide Developments, the developer of Hycroft, a collection of 65 four-bedroom freehold rowhomes in the neighbourhood.

The 2,200-plus square-foot rowhomes at Hycroft start at $599,900 and are now over 60 per cent sold. Phase four was just released.

"Neighbourhood and affordability are the top two benefits our buyers comment on," says Isler.

At Hycroft, buyers get the price of townhome-style living with the independence of a freehold home. The development's rowhomes do not have a strata, so buyers can feel the freedom (and strata-fee savings) they would if they owned a detached home. For those who enjoy having their own piece of the outdoors, the homes at Hycroft include walkout patios and fenced yards. A finished basement and detached garage give residents plenty of room for storage, workspaces and personal projects.

"Hycroft is a great place for families," says Isler.

The presentation centre is at 16467 24 Ave., Surrey; 604-541-2495; hycroftrowhomes.com.

CONTRIBUTED

HYCROFT
ROWHOMES BY STREETSIDE

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Everything about Hycroft is exceptional, from the well-thought-out floorplans to the exquisite interior finishes. Situated in South Surrey, these freehold, non-strata rowhomes give you all the advantages of a single-family home – including walkout patios, fenced yards, finished basements and a detached garage – for the price of a townhome. This is a rare opportunity to live the dream without compromising your lifestyle or budget. Don't miss out.

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STREETSIDE DEVELOPMENTS A QUALICO Company

Any prices exclude taxes. StreetSide Developments reserves the right to make modifications and changes to the building designs, specifications and features should they become necessary. Floor plans, elevations, room sizes and square footages are based on preliminary architectural drawings and may vary from the actual built home. E.&O.E.

CONTRIBUTED

New Coquitlam condo generates lots of excitement

New SkyTrain line will make it easy to get around

The new Evergreen SkyTrain line is going to change the face of Coquitlam, creating new hubs and new opportunities for residents to access everything they need.

At Evergreen, a new condo development in downtown Coquitlam located along the new rapid transit line, the excitement is growing.

"Our homeowners know a great opportunity in real estate when it arrives, and a new SkyTrain line doesn't come around very often," says Madonna McLafferty, sales manager at Bosa Properties, the developer of Evergreen. "It's no wonder that neighbourhoods near rapid transit tend to increase in value."

Prices are very affordable for singles and couples who are looking to buy their first home. One-bedroom-and-dens are starting from $295,900; 853-square-foot, two-bedrooms are starting from $423,900.

"Evergreen is offering affordable luxury that's exceptionally convenient," says McLafferty. "We've designed the homes purposely to be able to offer our buyers a balance of affordability and liveability."

The home interiors make an impact when you first walk in the door, with one of two professionally designed colour schemes by BYU Design.

Residents will enjoy the plethora of top-notch details, selected for longevity and practicality, including polished Grohe faucets, and Armony kitchens from Italy with soft-close cabinetry and drawers. KitchenAid and AEG Appliances make working in the kitchen a pleasure.

The neighbourhood is a green, family-oriented place to work, live and play. Evergreen sits adjacent to Coquitlam City Hall. For those attending post-secondary courses, the development is just two blocks from Douglas College.

Shopping is incredibly accessible, too. Evergreen is steps from Coquitlam Centre Mall.

Coquitlam is an outdoor lover's dream, and Evergreen is the perfect place to start exploring its lush parks and trails. Recreation opportunities abound with golf courses, pools, community centres and sports facilities including Evergreen Cultural Centre, Coquitlam River Park, City Centre Aquatics Centre.

When you're looking to get to work, see a friend, or shop elsewhere, transportation options from Evergreen give you the freedom that comes with living without a car and close to public transit. On the new SkyTrain line, Evergreen will be just six minutes to Lougheed Town Centre, 15 minutes to Metrotown, and 25 minutes to the centre of downtown Vancouver.

Visit bosaproperties.com/evergreen.

A FRESH START AT EVERGREEN

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Just outside your front door is the brand new Evergreen line, groceries, green spaces, cafés, and Coquitlam Centre Mall. Now is the perfect time to start fresh in a new Bosa Properties home.

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1308	B1 Plan (1 Bed + Den)	591	$295,900
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* Evergreen is developed by Bosa Properties (Evergreen) Inc. Renderings, sketches, layouts and finishes are representational only. Prices subject to change without notice. E.&O.E.

CONTRIBUTED

First-class living in Vancouver West

The Cambie and Marine hub is undergoing a sea of change and is poised to be the trendy focal point of prestigious Vancouver West. With ever-increasing shops, entertainment and communities, the area provides unparalleled access and convenience.

W1, a new collection of condos steps from the Marine Drive SkyTrain Station, is the most luxurious project in the neighbourhood and is set to make a grand statement.

The 31-storey tower is truly the best of the best, says Isaac Chan, director of sales for Concord Pacific, the developer of W1.

"The neighbourhood at Marine and Cambie is becoming a beautiful, high-energy hub close to transit, interspersed with parks and world-class amenities," says Chan. "Now is the time to invest here, while the neighbourhood is still developing."

W1's facade is designed to leave an impression that's prestigious and luxurious with classic details like a grand porte-cochère, complete with a central water fountain, that make an impression on visitors.

The central courtyards of meandering trails and water features are a taste of nature in the city, a place where residents can relax and rejuvenate. That's not to mention the many green spaces accessible throughout the city nearby, including the meticulously tended Van Dusen Gardens and Queen Elizabeth Park. Winona Park nearby offers a great place for kids and families to play.

If it's recreation you're looking for, the par 71 Langara Golf Course offers a place to up your golf game, the new Hillcrest Community Centre has a state-of-the-art public swimming pool, Nat Bailey Stadium is the place to get a hot dog and watch a baseball game.

Vancouver West offers world-class top educational institutes. With the top-five best private schools within a 15-minute drive, success for the next generation is a stone's throw away. UBC is also a mere 15-minute drive, while Langara College is only one SkyTrain station away.

When it comes to shopping, you're in the right place. W1 is one of the best spots in Vancouver for easy access to Vancouver's amazing variety of shopping experiences.

Oakridge Mall, with world-recognized brands and restaurants, is two stations away. The mall includes luxury brands Tiffany & Co., Hugo Boss, Coach and more. Those looking for the best deals can head to the new McArthurGlen outlets by the airport, where its future expansion will offer an even greater portfolio of designer brands and lifestyle apparel for every need.

Locally, shopping can't get much simpler at Marine Gateway High Street, a hub three minutes walk from home that includes a Steve Nash Fitness World, Cineplex theatres, and T&T Supermarket, as well as cafes and restaurants.

Visit W1Vancouver.com.

Concord premium finishes

CONTRIBUTED

Beauty and simplicity will always be in style, and home design at Concord Pacific's W1 collection is an elegant example. High-standard is an understatement when it comes to W1 homes.

"Concord Pacific is known for finishing homes with exquisite quality materials and fixtures, and W1 is a great case study of that attention to detail, choosing only the crème de la crème of materials" says Isaac Chan, director of sales for Concord Pacific, the developer of W1. "These finishes are exceptional and residents will be able to feel the difference."

Residents will enjoy their kitchen experiences, using top-brand Miele stainless steel appliances with integrated cabinet panels, gas cooktop and full-wall hood fan. Not only are drawers and cabinets soft-close, but organizers come included.

Every room is well thought out and gives a luxury feel. All interior doors and closet doors and trims feature a wood look finish while closet organizers truly allow for functionality while maintaining a beautiful custom millwork finish.

Bathrooms have a feel of simple luxury, with tub or tub-and-shower combinations that feature marble tile flooring, surrounds and apron fronts.

"The beautiful, natural material of the marble elevates the interiors to another level," says Chan.

EVERYWHERE YOU WANT TO BE

A great home isn't just where you are, but where you can get to. At W1, accessible transportation and major routes put the city's amenities at your fingertips.

Located within a few minutes walk of Marine Drive SkyTrain Station, along the state-of-the-art Canada Line rapid transit corridor, W1 is positioned for urban buyers who are looking for a place where they can access the city, and also live in luxury.

From Marine Drive Station, the SkyTrain will take residents to downtown Vancouver in 17 minutes for work and play, to Oakridge Mall in five minutes, and to Vancouver International Airport in seven minutes.

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Elegant and stylish inside and out, W1 is a reflection of the sought-after west side. With its hotel-inspired grand lobby, regal porte-cochère, beautifully landscaped garden terraces with lush green and water features and an array of luxurious amenities, W1 truly is the best of the best.

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CONCORD PACIFIC

metro SPORT
Your essential daily news

The Leafs offered Jonathan Bernier the minimum $2.89-million, one-year deal ahead of arbitration

Looking for a response

LIONS

After blowing a big lead last week, Leos take on Bombers

Cam Tucker
Metro | Vancouver

One pressing question about Thursday's matchup between the visiting B.C. Lions and host Winnipeg Blue Bombers has already been answered.

Drew Willy, Winnipeg's quarterback, will start, according to an announcement from the Blue Bombers via Twitter, after he was hurt last weekend against the Edmonton Eskimos.

Now, onto the next pressing question: how will the Lions respond from last Friday's loss to Toronto in which B.C. coughed up a 21-point lead?

The proof, as they say, will be in the pudding come Thursday evening, and the Lions will have help as far as veteran experience goes, with the return of defensive back Ryan Phillips (hamstring) to the lineup.

Those that spoke with the media on Wednesday before departing to the airport for the flight to Manitoba were saying all the right things.

"It's just about playing 60 minutes, regardless of the game situation," quarterback Travis Lulay reasoned.

"It's hard. It's human nature to get comfortable or feel that extra feel of urgency, but we have to find a way to have that sense of urgency on every single drive."

Execution has been the buzzword of the last few days, particularly in the immediate aftermath of Friday.

That was something that suddenly went missing for the Lions after Andrew Harris rumbled into the end zone early in the second quarter for his third touchdown of the game versus the Argonauts.

The Lions' Alex Tillman, centre, is hit by Argos defenders Devin Smith, left, Vincent Agnew, right, and James Yurichuk during a kick return on Friday at BC Place Stadium. The Lions squandered a 21-point lead and lost 30-27. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **One of the main messages this week is finish, play four quarters.**
> Jeff Tedford

But the overall prevailing message coming from the Lions camp is about putting a complete performance together.

With a 2-2 record, they sit in the middle of the pack in not only the West Division, but the entire CFL.

Four teams — Edmonton, Calgary, Toronto and Ottawa — lead the way with six points, while four other teams — B.C., Winnipeg, Montreal and Hamilton — each have four points. And the Saskatchewan Roughriders still sit without a win in five games.

"We've shown signs of being really good and then we haven't held that up for a full game," said head coach Jeff Tedford.

"One of the main messages this week is finish, play four quarters."

WHITECAPS

Robinson open to the right additions

Vancouver Whitecaps head coach Carl Robinson went through the checklist of what his team is right now, but admitted if the feeling is right, he'd like to add to his group as it makes another playoff push.

"We've had a very good start to the year, we're building, we've got the youngest group in Major League Soccer and we're exciting to watch," said Robinson on Tuesday, as his Whitecaps wrapped up training, with a critical MLS regular-season match with Cascadia Cup rival Seattle Sounders FC on Saturday.

"Do I want to add to the squad? I'm constantly looking to add to this group to make us better. Will we be signing a Steven Gerrard? No, we won't. I think that's fair to say."

The Whitecaps sit second in the MLS Western Conference, and their 11 wins ties them with FC Dallas and D.C. United for the league lead in that category.

The MLS secondary transfer window is open, but it closes Aug. 6.

The Whitecaps have three designated players on their roster, and Robinson doesn't anticipate bringing in a star player to the club; in fact the coach cautioned against such high-profile moves and the impact they can have.

The Vancouver side has seen both the good and bad of such transactions since joining MLS.

"I'll do it based upon the building blocks for this football club I've put in place," said Robinson. CAM TUCKER/METRO

Carl Robinson GETTY IMAGES

Nacer Chadli of Tottenham Hotspur dribbles past MLS all-star Matt Besler, right, on Wednesday night in Commerce City, Colo. DUSTIN BRADFORD/GETTY IMAGES

SOCCER

Kaka shines in all-star game win

Kaka scored on a penalty kick and set up David Villa's goal minutes later in the first half to help the best players in Major League Soccer beat Tottenham Hotspur 2-1 on a blustery Wednesday night.

The MLS improved to 9-3-1 against international competition in its all-star game.

Orlando City's Kaka and Villa of New York City FC are the new "kids" in the league and did all right. Both made their MLS debuts this season and showed their skills in the first half before taking a seat on the bench.

ON WEDNESDAY

MLS	HOTSPUR
2	1

Harry Kane scored for the Spurs, who open the English Premier League against Manchester United on Aug. 8.

Keeper Nick Rimando of Real Salt Lake had a sensational opening 45 minutes before turning things over to David Ousted.

Ousted, who plays for the Vancouver Whitecaps, preserved the lead in the 73rd minute when he made a sprawling save on a point-blank attempt by Josh Onomah.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Little white lie sparked long para-sports career

Patriots owner Robert Kraft
GETTY IMAGES

NFL

Pats back Brady appeal

New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady vowed to fight his four-game suspension on Wednesday, and team owner Robert Kraft opened training camp by saying he continues to "believe and unequivocally support" the three-time Super Bowl MVP.

"I was wrong to put my faith in the league," Kraft said.

Taking the podium a day after NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell upheld Brady's four-game suspension, Kraft angrily targeted the league for its handling of the case.

"The decision handed down by the league yesterday is unfathomable to me," he said. "I have come to the conclusion that this was never about doing what was fair and just."

Brady was suspended four games and the team was docked $1 million and two draft picks after the league determined that the team provided improperly inflated footballs in the AFC championship game against the Indianapolis Colts. Investigator Ted Wells zeroed in on two equipment managers — one who called himself "The Deflator" — and said Brady was "at least generally aware" of the illegal deflation scheme.

The team has denied wrongdoing, but it fired the two equipment managers whose text messages included discussions of football inflation.

Kraft said he expected Brady's suspension to be reduced on appeal, and repeated the team's claim that the league failed to prove its case.

Brady broke his silence in a 507-word Facebook post earlier Wednesday in which he denied destroying his cellphone to keep it out of the hands of investigators.

"To suggest that I destroyed a phone to avoid giving the NFL information it requested is completely wrong," the three-time Super Bowl MVP said. "There is no 'smoking gun' and this controversy is manufactured to distract from the fact they have zero evidence of wrongdoing."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PARAPAN 2015

Wheelchair basketballer first wanted to swim

Since it implies something underhanded, it would be misleading to say Tracey Ferguson was tricked into playing wheelchair basketball. Any deception was out of compassion.

But Ferguson, now 40 and a mainstay on the national women's team for 24 years, wanted to be a swimmer when her mother called Variety Village searching for a place where her preteen daughter could emulate her hero, Alex Baumann.

"My daughter is new to a wheelchair," Ferguson recalls her mother, Patricia Boudreau, explaining on the phone. "She swam before paralysis and she wants to be a swimmer. The gentleman there said, 'C'mon down and see what we have.'

Tracey Ferguson dribbles past Janet McLachlan during a presentation in Toronto in March.
STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

BACKGROUND

Into the chair

Ferguson, the youngest of six children, was paralyzed during a surgical procedure when she was 9. She had scoliosis and when doctors at Sick Kids Hospital were implanting steel rods to straighten her spine, the procedure left her without movement from the waist down.

She has regained some function over time and can walk short distances.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

He failed to mention that they hadn't built a pool yet."

Ferguson, almost 12 at the time, excitedly arrived to see the facilities.

"We got down there and they threw me in a basketball chair, they threw me in a racing chair and I played some tennis. Finally I said, 'And the pool?' And the guy was like, 'We're going to build one. But we didn't want to turn you away. We didn't want to say no.'"

Her mother, meanwhile, saw how much fun Tracey was having and signed her up for a membership. Boudreau was then floored when her daughter said she wanted to play basketball. She asked Tracey if she'd actually made a basket during her test run.

> **Once I found out about wheelchair sports, my world opened up again.**
> Tracey Ferguson

"Not even close," the youngster responded beaming. "Didn't even hit the bottom of the mesh."

Ferguson admits she was "horrible" but she believed she could get better. Three Paralympic gold medals and a bronze with Canada along with four world championships and a bronze at that level proved her right.

But Ferguson was also attracted to the fact she could play with her friends. She couldn't play basketball standing up with them but all her pals from Reesor Park Public School in Markham could come down to Variety Village, sit in a wheelchair and play basketball with her.

"We could play like we played before my injury," she said.

Ferguson, just five feet tall and 46 pounds, recalls she was lighter than her 50-pound "clunker" of a wheelchair that could have held two of her. But life changed when she got into a sports chair for the first time at Variety Village.

"It felt like running again," she said. "Once I found out about wheelchair sports, my world opened up again."

Ferguson, who calls herself "exceptionally old," has played for Canada so long she went through one 12-year stretch of being undefeated internationally and then through a rebuilding phase that has the team back on top as reigning world champs as it goes into the Parapan Games in Toronto. Ferguson is the only player remaining from the Paralympic champion teams in 1992, 1996 and 2000.

"When I stop being an asset to the team, it will be time for me to go," says Ferguson but she is training with hopes of playing in the Paralympics at Rio in 2016. The Parapan Am Games here are a qualifier for Rio. Canada finished sixth at the London Paralympic Games in 2012.

While Ferguson now lives in Germany where she plays professional wheelchair basketball — "they cover your costs but you're not getting rich" — her siblings and parents, in Holland Landing, remain in the Toronto area.

She sees playing in these Games as a way to thank them.

"They were the ones that launched my career and now I have an opportunity to play at one of the biggest sporting events in the world in my hometown and to put on a show for them," she says. "I can say, what you did back then allowed me to realize my dreams and I want to really show them how great Team Canada is."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

FIFA

Blatter's protege aims to succeed him as head

Michel Platini has launched his campaign to succeed Sepp Blatter as FIFA president, aiming to give the scandal-hit governing body "the dignity and the position it deserves."

Platini, the UEFA president and a FIFA vice-president, wrote to member federations in Europe on Wednesday that he will stand in the election and counts on their support.

The former France great is the first serious contender to declare his intentions ahead of an Oct. 26 deadline to apply. The FIFA election is on Feb. 26.

"There are times in life when you have to take your destiny into your own hands," wrote Platini, who turned 60 last month. "I am at one of those decisive moments, at a juncture in my life and in events that are shaping the future of FIFA."

Platini has for years been the obvious candidate to succeed Blatter, his mentor in FIFA politics.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Rookie to stand in for injured Kevin Glenn

Rookie Brett Smith will make his first CFL start Friday night when the Saskatchewan Roughriders visit the Edmonton Eskimos.

A league source requesting anonymity said Smith will replace veteran Kevin Glenn, who suffered a shoulder injury in the second half of the Riders' 31-21 home loss to the Hamilton Tiger-Cats on Sunday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Gillette Stadium to host Winter Classic

The Winter Classic is coming to the home of the New England Patriots.

NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman joined officials from the Boston Bruins and Montreal Canadiens on Wednesday to say the Original Six rivals would meet at Gillette Stadium on New Year's Day. The Bruins will be the first team to host the event twice. They also hosted it in 2010, at Fenway Park.

Patriots owner Robert Kraft also spoke at the ceremony, just hours after his impassioned "Deflategate" defence.

Bettman notes that the three organizations are among the most successful in their sports, with 34 championships. The Canadiens have won 24 of those, but the Patriots are the defending Super Bowl champs.

Bettman also says the league has extended the game's title sponsorship with Bridgestone for another five years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tulo shows 'knack' for dramatic

Blue Jays shortstop Troy Tulowitzki hits a two-run home run against the Phillies at Rogers Centre on Wednesday night.
DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

Newest Jays star goes yard, hits two doubles in Toronto debut

All it took for Troy Tulowitzki to get comfortable in his new uniform was a home run.

The newly acquired Blue Jays shortstop impressed in his debut, hitting a home run with three RBIs as Toronto beat the Philadelphia Phillies 8-2 on Wednesday night.

Tulowitzki said after the game that he was nervous playing in his first Blue Jays game since being traded from the Colorado Rockies on Tuesday but finding his swing helped calm his nerves.

WEDNESDAY In Toronto

8	2
BLUE JAYS	PHILLIES

"I think they were trying to go with a high fastball but didn't quite get it up there," said Tulowitzki of the 0-2 pitch he crushed in the third inning. "I put a good swing on it. That was huge for me to get it under my belt and I think I relaxed after that and took better swings."

Tulowitzki hit two doubles after the home run and led Toronto's (51-51) offence, which exploded for a total of 16 hits. Every batter in the Blue Jays' starting lineup had at least one hit, with five players earning two hits and Tulowitzki getting three.

"Hey, some guys do things with style, y'know?" said manager John Gibbons on Tulowitzki's debut. "I don't think it could've gone any better, really. He made a nice play defensively early then had two doubles and a homer.

"Some guys have a knack."
THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB IN BRIEF

M's losing sight of .500

The season with so much expectation for the Seattle Mariners found a new low on Wednesday.

Sitting a season-worst 10 games below .500 as the trade deadline approached was not where the Mariners expected to find themselves in late July.

"Where do I see my team? We got our butts kicked in this series," manager Lloyd McClendon said.

Felix Hernandez gave up a pair of home runs to Welington Castillo and the Arizona Diamondbacks beat the Mariners 8-2 to complete a three-game sweep.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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RECIPE Grilled Zucchini, Tomato and Buffalo Mozzarella Stacks

EAT LIGHT AT HOME
Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com
@rosereisman

Ready in
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes

Ingredients
- 6 round slices zucchini (1-inch thick)
- 6 slices medium-sized red tomatoes (1/2-inch thick)
- 3 oz buffalo mozzarella cheese or smooth ricotta
- 6 slices medium-sized yellow tomatoes (1/2-inch thick)
- Balsamic glaze
- 1/3 cup balsamic vinegar
- 2 Tbsp maple syrup
- Chopped fresh basil

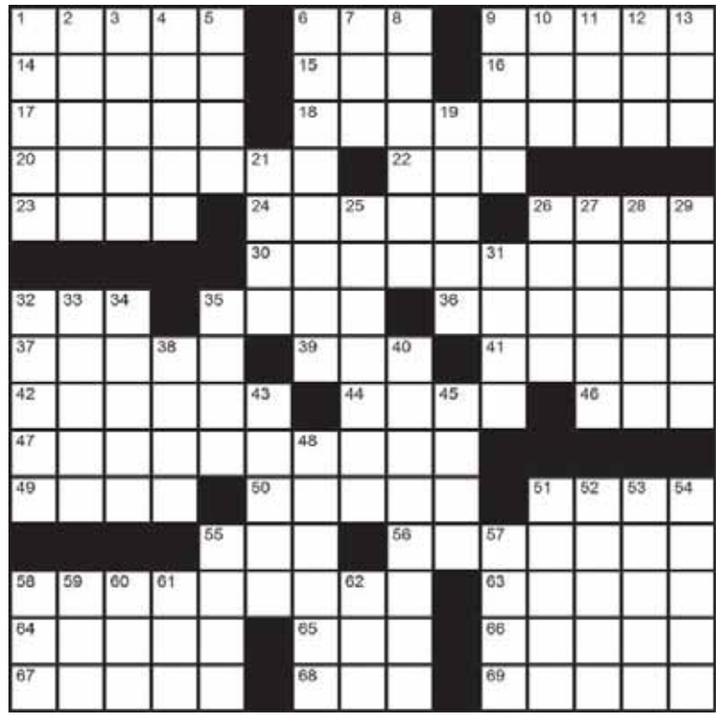
Directions
1. In a grill pan sprayed with vegetable oil, grill zucchini rounds, around four minutes per side, just until slightly tender.
2. On large serving platter, place red tomato slices in a single row. Divide half of cheese over top tomatoes. Top with yellow tomato slices and divide remaining cheese over top. Add zucchini rounds.
3. In small skillet, add balsamic vinegar and maple syrup. Bring to a boil and cook for one to two minutes, just until bubbles cover entire surface. Drizzle over top tomato stacks and garnish with basil. If glaze gets too thick, gently reheat and add a little more maple syrup.

Nutrition per serving (makes 6 stacks)
- Calories 70
- Protein 4 g
- Carbohydrates 6 g
- Total fat 1.5 g
- Cholesterol 5 g
- Sodium 100 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Bird of Jove
6. "This Hour Has 22 Minutes" network
9. Gladden
14. Pasted
15. Diminutive suffix
16. Mr. Firth
17. Succulent plant
18. Break in the workday
20. "The __ __ Code" (2006) starring Tom Hanks
22. __-mo replay
23. Navigated waters
24. Arise
26. Regrettably
30. As per #6-Down, locale in the Yukon: 2 wds.
32. '60s hit: "__ My Party"
35. Dry
36. Religious lecture
37. Update a route
39. Not nope
41. Existence
42. Appearances
44. Lids
46. Kicker's peg
47. Coniferous tree delicacies: 2 wds.
49. Dwelling
50. Regards
51. __ of St. Lawrence
55. Neutral shoe tone
56. Item in an eater's hand
58. Spanish author of Don Quixote
63. Scoundrel
64. Significant __ (Special someone)
65. Record co.
66. Astound
67. Picture
68. Grumpy's co-worker
69. Thaws

DOWN
1. "Zounds!"
2. Pool nuisance
3. Tropical fruit
4. Mr. Strauss' jeans
5. "I Dream of Jeannie" star Barbara
6. July 30th to August 2nd, 2015: Yukon __ Festival (Regional food celebration in Whitehorse and #30-Across)
7. __-ray player
8. Population count
9. Canyon lingerer
10. Movie studio area
11. Canadian journalist Mr. Velshi
12. Mr. Burton the director
13. Compass pt.
19. Namesakes of jazz singer Ms. Laine
21. Relinquish control
25. Honeybunch
26. Land amount
27. Speed __
28. Repent
29. Abbey Theatre dramatist, J.M. __ (b.1871 - d.1909)
31. Bird beaks
32. Bar soap brand, __ Spring
33. Song's swiftness
34. Phoney well-wishery
35. On __ (Without a contract)
38. Chill
40. Billboard chart fare: 2 wds.
43. Certain car
45. "Excuse me..."
48. Like a traveling circus venue
51. Garden guy
52. Regular
53. Hungarian composer, Franz __ (b.1811 - d.1886)
54. Escapes
55. Root vegetable
57. "Rio Lobo" (1970) actor Jack
58. Police officer
59. Ordinal suffix
60. Greek alphabet's 17th letter
61. Verify
62. Goth rocker

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Be careful how you react to criticism today. If you let your enemies see that your feelings are hurt they will go out of their way to hurt you further. Pretend that you are not the slightest bit bothered.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You find it hard to be modest, but today you would be wise not to draw attention to your superiority because there is something you have missed that could make you look very silly.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
The best way to get over your negative mood is to throw yourself into an activity that you enjoy. It doesn't have to be important, just something that takes your mind off your worries.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You want to speak your mind today, but be warned: you could be the one who is the topic of conversation if you stray from the facts. What others say won't be pleasant.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
This is not a good time to say or do anything that might meet the disapproval of people in power. Yes, there are facts that need to be looked at but don't make a big deal of it.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
If you tread on someone's toes today the consequences could be painful for both of you! Minor differences could escalate quite rapidly into major disputes, so steer clear of people who offend easily.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
The most important thing now is that you act as if you care, even if you don't. Others are counting on you to raise their spirits and if you are as nice a person as they say you are you will tell them what they need to hear.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You are never afraid to be controversial but today there is a danger that you will go too far and make an enemy of someone powerful. You may be brave, but ask yourself: is it worth the hassle?

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Don't neglect the needs of those you love in your haste to make a name for yourself on the work front. You could all too easily turn people against you.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
If you help someone today they will repay the favour later, when you are the one in need. In a nutshell: be kind to others and they will more likely be kind to you.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
The time has come to end some kind of partnership. It won't be easy but you know it must be done. In the long-term it will be good for you both.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
You must be honest with yourself about what you want and what you have to do to get it. And if you come to the conclusion that the price is too high then lower your sights and aim for something less demanding.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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